

52 BIG
PAGES

SEE THE WORLD OF THE FUTURE WITH

Tommy
TOMORROW



NO. 143 APR.

ACTION COMICS

IT'S THE MYSTERY
OF METROPOLIS!
CAN **YOU**
GUESS WHO
IS TO BE
"THE BRIDE
OF
SUPERMAN"
?



10¢

SUPERMAN

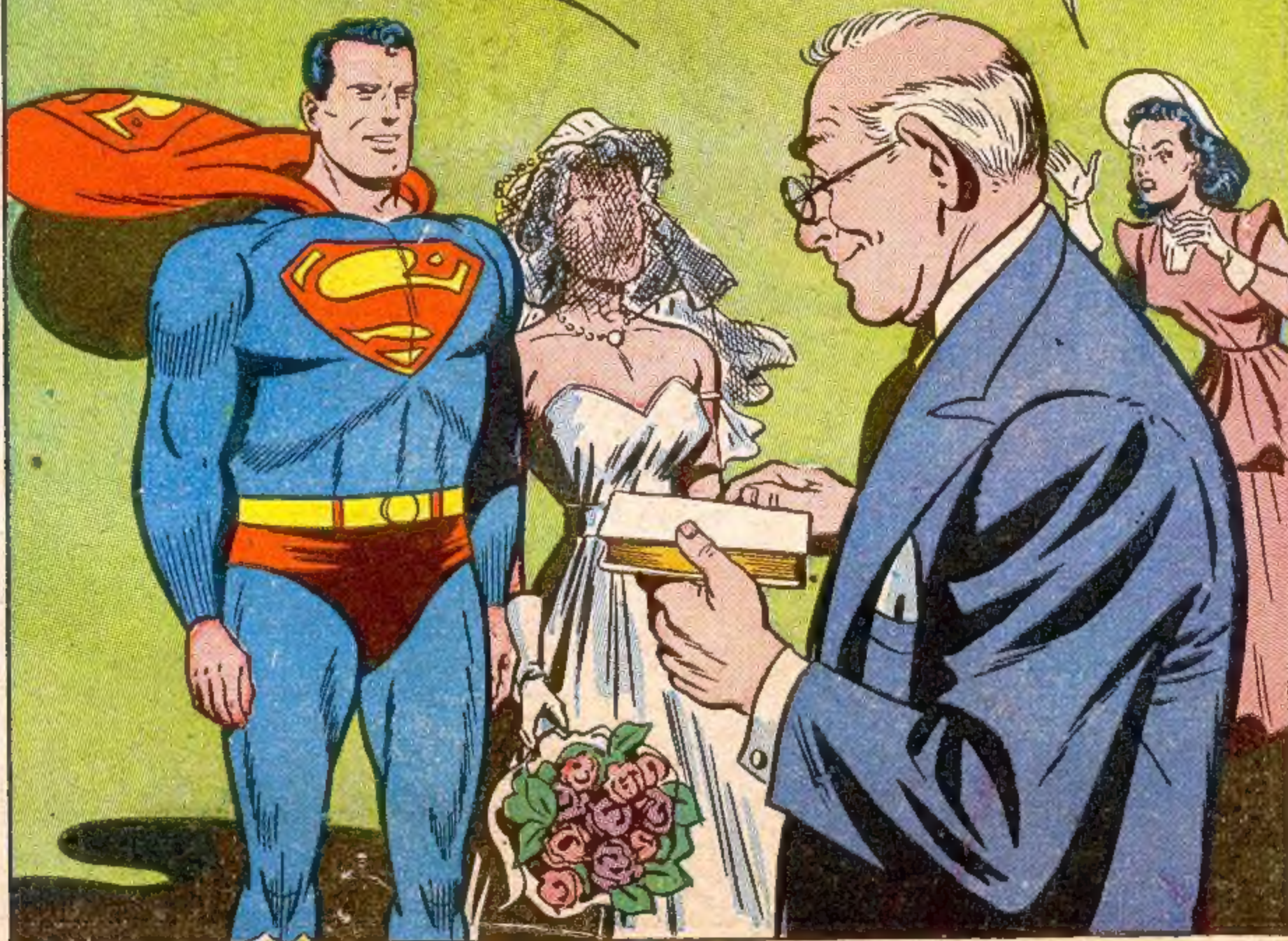
CAN YOU BELIEVE YOUR EYES? SUPERMAN--THE WORLD'S MOST ELIGIBLE BACHELOR--HAS FINALLY SELECTED THE GIRL WHO IS TO BE
MRS. SUPERMAN!

BUT THE GIRL OF HIS DREAMS IS **NOT** LOIS LANE! AND WHILE MOST GIRLS WOULD RETIRE TO A QUIET CORNER TO WEEP WITH BREAKING HEART OVER THE MAN THEY'VE LOST, LOIS REACTS QUITE DIFFERENTLY! WITH A FIERCE GLINT IN HER EYE THAT SPELLS PLENTY OF TROUBLE FOR THE MAN OF TOMORROW, SHE EMBARKS ON AN EXPLOSIVE CAMPAIGN TO BLAST WIDE OPEN THE ROMANCE BETWEEN THE MAN OF STEEL

AND...
"The Bride of Superman!"

IF THERE IS ANYONE PRESENT WHO KNOWS ANY REASON WHY THESE TWO SHOULD NOT BE UNITED IN MATRIMONY, LET HIM SPEAK!

YOUR HONOR!
I PROTEST! HOLD EVERYTHING!



A ROUTINE DAY AT THE OFFICE OF THE DAILY PLANET IN METROPOLIS, AND A NEWS FLASH COMES OVER THE TICKER...

...THE S. S. REGINA ARRIVING AT NOON TODAY. AMONG THE ARRIVALS IS EUROPEAN GLAMOR GIRL NIKKI LARUE, WHO WILL BE MET BY MYSTERIOUS FIANCE. "HE IS MOST FAMOUS MAN IN AMERICA," HINTS MISS LARUE...

MINUTES LATER, CLARK KENT AND LOIS LANE, DAILY PLANET REPORTERS, SET OUT TO COVER THE ASSIGNMENT...

THE BOAT WON'T DOCK FOR TEN MINUTES, CLARK! SUPPOSE YOU WAIT ON THE PIER WHILE I TEND TO A LITTLE ERRAND I'VE GOT TO DO!

SUITS ME, LOIS! BUT MAKE SURE YOU'RE ON HAND WHEN THE SHIP COMES IN! PERRY WHITE IS COUNTING ON US BOTH TO COVER THIS STORY!

WHEN LOIS LEAVES, CLARK KENT LOSES NO TIME RETREATING TO A DESERTED SPOT...

I'M GLAD LOIS IS GONE! GIVES ME A CHANCE TO SWITCH TO SUPERMAN AND TAKE CARE OF A LITTLE ERRAND OF MY OWN.

CLARK'S BEATEN ME TO THREE SCOOPS THIS MONTH! THIS TIME I'LL SCOOP HIM! I'LL TAKE A ROWBOAT OUT TO THE REGINA AND GET NIKKI LARUE'S STORY BEFORE HER SHIP DOCKS! AFTER ALL, ALL'S FAIR IN WAR AND NEWSPAPER REPORTING!

PRESENTLY...

GOLLY! LOOK WHO'S FLYIN' OVER THE STATUE OF LIBERTY, MISS! IT'S SUPERMAN!

WHY, SO IT IS! JEEPERS! NIKKI LARUE MUST BE SOMETHING SPECIAL IF SUPERMAN'S SHOWING UP FOR HER ARRIVAL!

MEANWHILE, LET'S TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT SUPERMAN AS HE ZOOMS DOWN TO THE TORCH OF THE STATUE OF LIBERTY...

BY ARRANGING THESE ROCKETS WITH MATHEMATICAL PRECISION AT VARIOUS ANGLES, I CAN GET THE EFFECT I WANT! THEY'RE TIMED TO GO OFF AT JUST THE RIGHT MOMENT.

MOMENTS LATER, NEWSHAWK LOIS LANE SCRAMBLES UP THE REGINA'S LADDER TO THE FIRST CLASS DECK, AND...

PLEASE, MISS LARUE! WON'T YOU TELL US WHO YOUR FIANCE IS?

SO THAT'S NIKKI LARUE! SHE CERTAINLY IS PLAYING THE MYSTERY ANGLE FOR ALL IT'S WORTH! BUT I'LL GET HER TO TALK!



I'M LOIS LANE OF THE DAILY PLANET, MISS LARUE! I'M SUPPOSED TO GET THE WOMAN'S ANGLE ON YOUR ROMANCE! IF YOU'LL JUST TELL ME WHO YOUR SUITOR IS...

AHHH... HE IS THE MOST CHARMING MAN I HAVE EVER KNOWN!



SUPPOSE I TRY TO GUESS WHO HE IS! A FAMOUS AMERICAN... HMMM! IS IT VAN RONSON, THE MOVIE STAR? OR JAMES BRYANT, THE SENATOR? OR SCHUYLER BLAKE, THE MILLIONAIRE? OR...

FORGIVE ME, MISS LANE-- BUT IS THAT NOT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY?



YES! IT'S THE STATUE OF LIBERTY, ALL RIGHT! BUT WHAT'S THAT COMING OUT OF THE TORCH? LOOKS LIKE A ROCKET!

LOOK AGAIN, MISS LANE! IT IS AS IF YOUR MISS LIBERTY WERE HOLDING UP A GIANT BOUQUET!



AND AS THE S.S. REGINA SAILS PAST THE STATUE OF LIBERTY, THE ASTOUNDED PASSENGERS OBSERVE AN AMAZING DISPLAY!



NEARBY,
THE MAN
OF
TOMORROW
COMPLETES
HIS WELCOME
TO NIKKI
WITH A
SPECTACULAR
SMOKE-
WRITTEN
VALENTINE
IN THE SKY!

I LOVE
YOU NIKKI

I HOPE NIKKI
LIKED THE BOUQUET
I ARRANGED FOR HER!
NOW TO TOP IT OFF
WITH THIS VALENTINE
MESSAGE AND GET
DOWN TO THE SHIP
TO GREET HER!



MY GOODNESS!
SUPERMAN CERTAINLY
HAS GONE TO A LOT
OF TROUBLE TO WEL-
COME YOU IN THE NAME
OF YOUR FIANCE!
I WONDER WHY?

IT'S SIMPLE,
MY DEAR!
YOU SEE--
SUPERMAN
IS MY
FIANCE!

WHAT???
WHY, THAT'S
RIDICULOUS!
YOU MEAN THAT
SUPERMAN
IS THE MAN
YOU'RE GOING
TO MARRY?

IN ONE MOMENT
YOU SHALL SEE, MISS
LANE! HERE COMES
MY SWEETHEART
NOW!



DARLING!
HOW
WONDERFUL
TO SEE YOU
AGAIN!

MY ANGEL!
AT LAST YOU'RE
HERE!

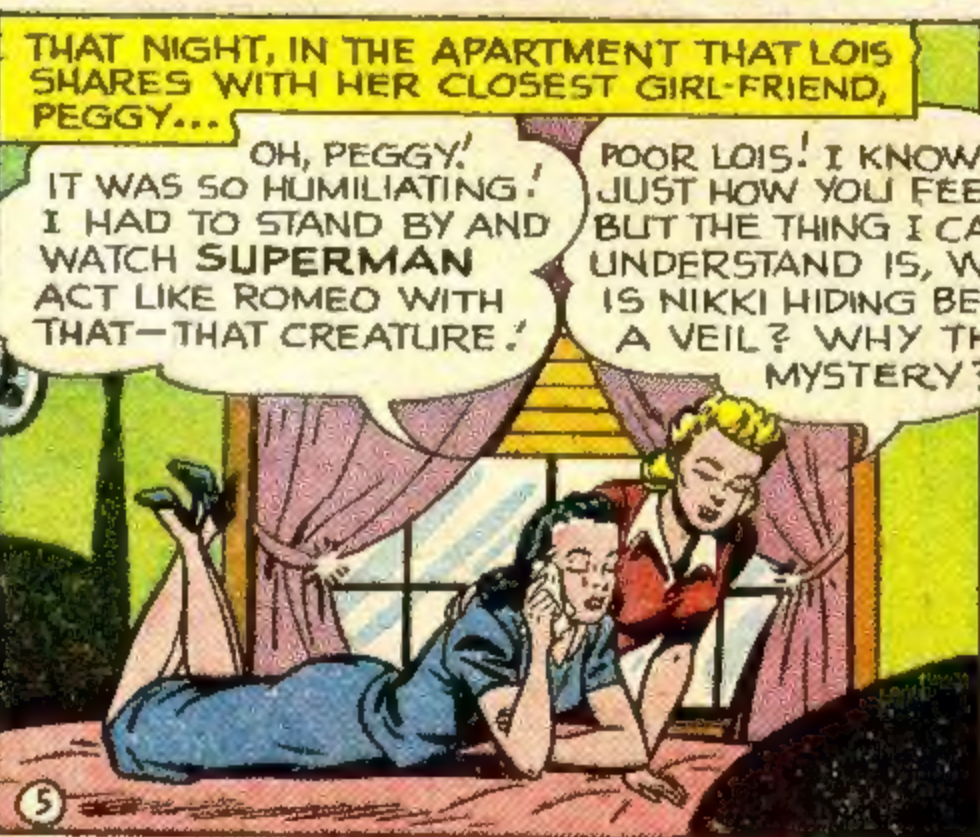
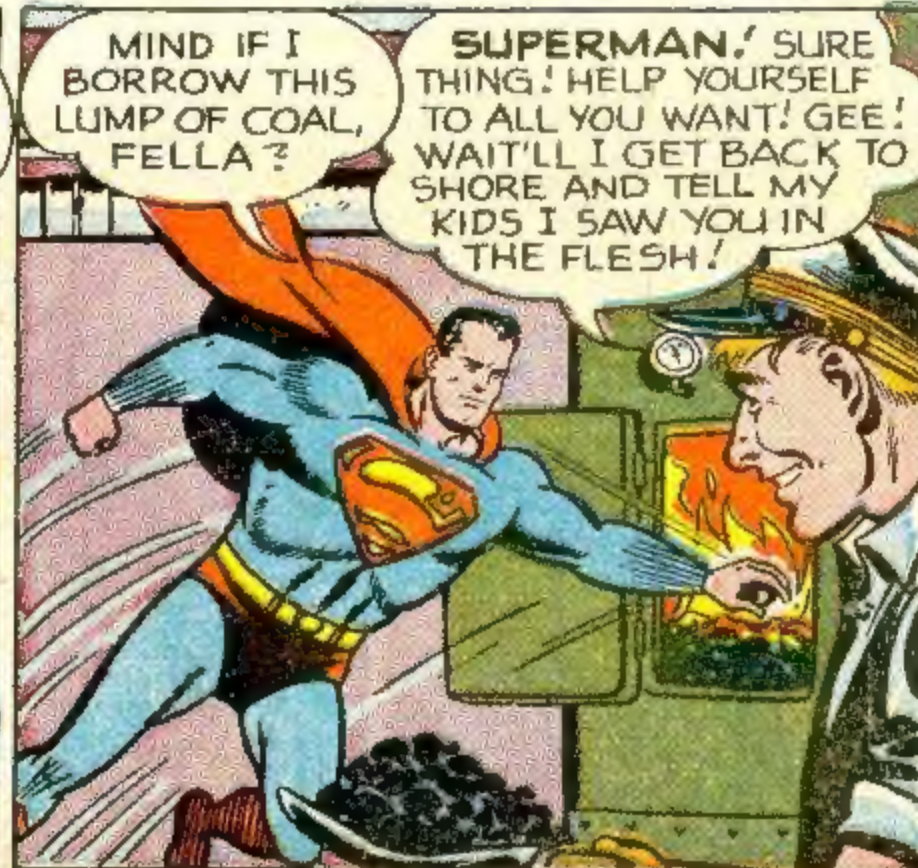
OHHHH...

MOMENTS LATER, AS A BEWILDERED LOIS
LANE REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS...

OH, SUPERMAN!
IT'S WONDERFUL TO
FEEL YOUR ARMS
AROUND ME! IT
WASN'T TRUE ABOUT
YOU AND NIKKI
AFTER ALL,
WAS IT?

PLEASE DON'T PAT
MY CHEEK, LOIS!
AND IN THE FUTURE,
KINDLY REMEMBER
THAT I'M AN
ENGAGED
MAN!





THE FOLLOWING DAY AT THE CARLTON HOTEL, LOIS LANE, DISGUISED AS A SCRUBWOMAN, MOPS HER WAY DOWN A CORRIDOR...

I GOT THIS JOB WITHOUT ANY TROUBLE! HMM... 205! THE NEXT MUST BE NIKKI'S!

ER...EXCUSE ME, MA'AM... I'M HERE TO MOP UP YOUR ROOM.

SO THAT'S NIKKI! HOLY COW! SHE'S ORDINARY!

AH YES! COME RIGHT IN! I'M LEAVING IN A MOMENT!

I GO NOW! IF YOUNG MAN NAMED **SUPERMAN** SHOULD COME, PLEASE TELL HIM NIKKI WILL MEET HIM AT USUAL PLACE! GOOD DAY, YOUNG WOMAN.

Y-YES! I'LL TELL HIM! SO **SUPERMAN** IS COMING HERE!



SUPERMAN WILL BE HERE ANY MINUTE! THIS IS MY CHANCE TO FIND OUT IF HE REALLY LOVES NIKKI! YIPPEE! ALL I NEED IS THIS HAT AND VEIL!



MINUTES LATER... GOOD MORNING, NIKKI! SORRY IF I'M A LITTLE LATE!



GOOD! HE THINKS I'M NIKKI!

THAT IS ALL RIGHT, DARLENG! I DO NOT MIND WAITING—FOR YOU! BUT THERE IS ONE QUESTION I MUST ASK YOU!



YOU SAY YOU LOVE ME, **SUPERMAN**! BUT THIS GIRL, LOIS LANE, WHO WAS AT THE SHIP YESTERDAY! ARE YOU SURE YOU LOVE ME MORE THAN HER?

DON'T BE FOOLISH, NIKKI DARLING! LOIS LANE IS JUST A VAIN, SILLY GIRL! SHE DOESN'T MEAN A THING TO ME, NOT A THING.



YOU—YOU THING, YOU! SO I'M VAIN AND SILLY, EH? I HATE YOU! GO TO THAT OLD HEN OF A GIRL-FRIEND OF YOURS! SHE'S WAITING FOR YOU—AT THE USUAL PLACE! NOW GET OUT!

LOIS! TAKE IT EASY! I KNEW IT WAS YOU BY MY X-RAY VISION!

AND WHEN A DISCONSOLATE LOIS RETURNS TO HER OFFICE, SHE INSTANTLY CONFIDES HER PROBLEM TO HER ROOMMATE PEGGY, VIA TELEPHONE...

... AND THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED, PEGGY! I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO THINK!

WELL, DEARIE, IF I WERE IN YOUR SHOES, I'D PUT **SUPERMAN** TO THE TEST! THAT'S THE ONLY WAY TO FIND OUT IF HE STILL LOVES YOU!

PEGGY'S RIGHT! THE ONLY THING IS, I'M **NOT** IN ANY TROUBLE! SO HOW CAN I PUT **SUPERMAN** TO THE TEST? AH ME!

PERRY WHITE SPEAKING! **WHAT? WOW!** WHAT A STORY! THANKS FOR THE TIP! I'LL SEND A REPORTER RIGHT DOWN!

BOBO NEWTON JUST BROKE JAIL AND IS SHOOTING IT OUT WITH THE POLICE DOWN AT THE RAILROAD YARDS! COVER THE STORY, LOIS-- BUT DON'T TAKE ANY CHANCES!

I'M ON MY WAY, CHIEF! TELL CLARK TO LET **SUPERMAN** KNOW I'M DOWN THERE! ("--HERE'S MY CHANCE TO GET IN **REAL** TROUBLE!--")

MINUTES LATER, AT THE FREIGHT TRAIN DEPOT...

LADY! COME BACK! BOBO NEWTON'S HOLED UP IN THAT FREIGHT CAR!

THANKS FOR THE INFORMATION, OFFICER! HE'S THE VERY MAN I WANT TO SEE! ("--I'M NOT THE LEAST BIT SCARED! NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, I **KNOW** **SUPERMAN** WILL SAVE ME!--")

INSIDE THE FREIGHT CAR, THE TRAPPED GANGSTER STARES UNBELIEVEDLY AT HIS SUDDEN GOOD LUCK!

"HUH? A DAME--AND SHE'S HEADIN' RIGHT FOR ME! I'LL USE HER AS A **HOSTAGE**! THEN THE COPS WILL HAVE TO LET ME GET AWAY!"

THAT'S FUNNY! **SUPERMAN** OUGHT TO BE HERE BY NOW!

GET IN HERE, YOU! ALL RIGHT YOU COPPERS! ME AN' THIS DIZZY DAME ARE LEAVIN' BY THE BACK DOOR! MAKE ONE MOVE TO STOP ME AND SHE GETS SHOT IN THE HEAD!

SUPERMAN! **SUPERMAN!** WHERE ARE YOU?? I'M IN DANGER!

HAS LOIS OVERESTIMATED SUPERMAN'S CONCERN FOR HER? OR IS THE MAN OF STEEL SO IN LOVE WITH NIKKI THAT HE HAS FAILED TO RESPOND TO PERRY WHITE'S MESSAGE ABOUT LOIS? IF NOT, THEN WHERE IS HE?

WHERE IS SUPERMAN? LET US LOOK SKYWARD, WHERE HE BLAZES LIKE A HUMAN FIREBALL THROUGH SPACE, FOCUSING HIS TELESCOPIC X-RAY VISION AS HE TRAVELS...

WHEN I GOT PERRY WHITE'S MESSAGE, I KNEW LOIS WOULD BE UP TO SOMETHING—BUT WHAT? MAYBE MY X-RAY VISION WILL SHOW ME... OH-OH! LOOKS LIKE I'M TOO LATE ALREADY! SHE'S BOBO'S HOSTAGE!

SUPERMAN! THERE ISN'T ANYTHING YOU CAN DO! IF YOU GO NEAR THAT CAR TO SAVE LOIS LANE, BOBO'LL KILL HER! IN ONE MORE SECOND, HE'S GOING TO BREAK OUT THE BACK WAY WITH HER!

ONE SECOND? NOT MUCH TIME, BUT IT'LL HAVE TO DO!

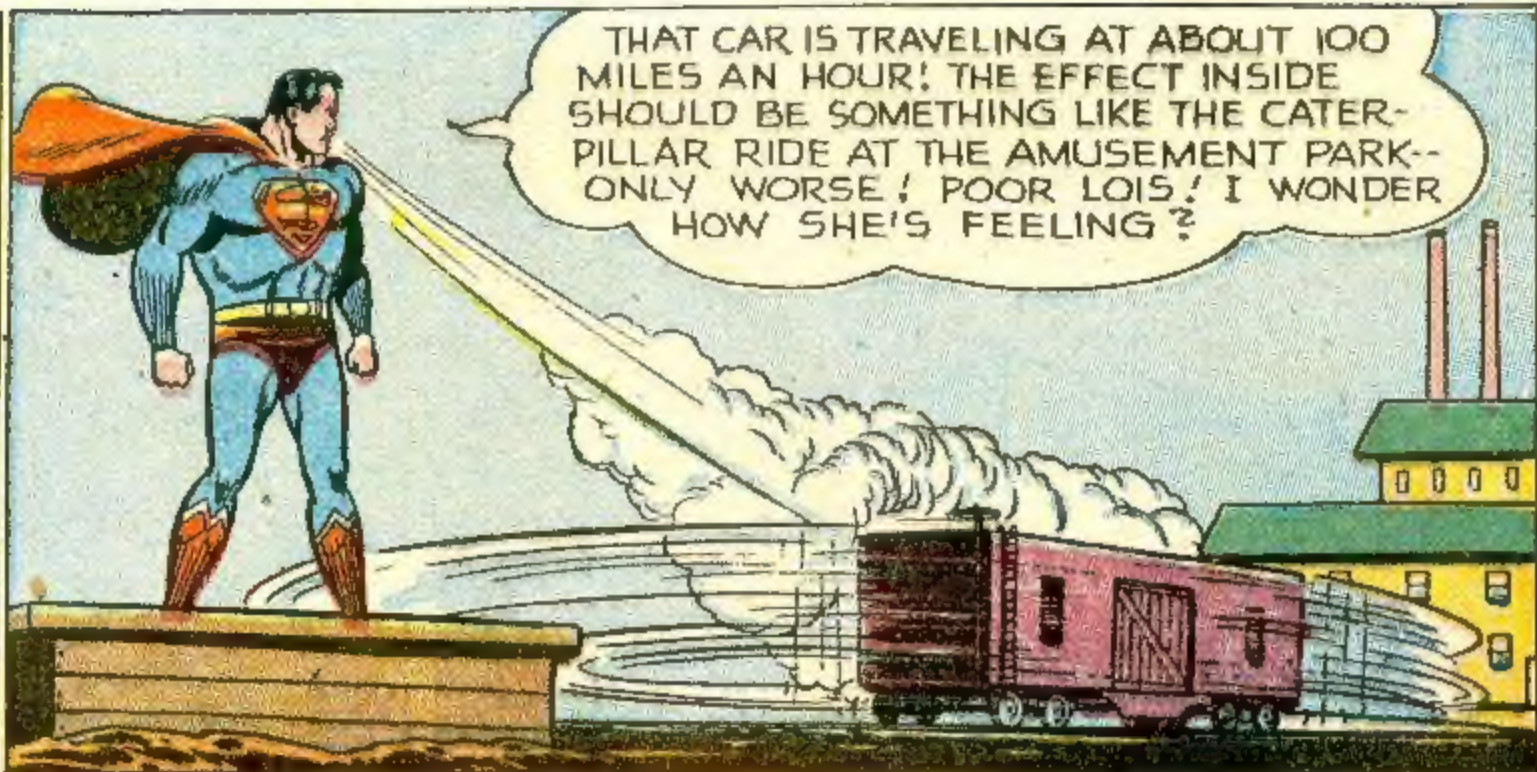
WORKING AT INCREDIBLE SPEED, SUPERMAN RIPS THE SURROUNDING RAILROAD TIES FROM THE GROUND WITH HANDS OF STEEL!

NOW TO RE-LAY THESE TRACKS THE WAY I WANT THEM TO GO! IF LOIS' LIFE WEREN'T AT STAKE, THIS WOULD BE AS MUCH FUN AS PLAYING WITH ELECTRIC TRAINS!

SINCE I CAN'T GO NEAR BOBO'S FREIGHT CAR, I'LL HAVE TO USE MY SUPER-BREATH TO START IT OFF! HERE GOES...



WITHIN ONE SPLIT SECOND, THE MAN OF TOMORROW COMPLETES HIS TASK, AND THE CROWD ROARS AS THE FREIGHT TRAIN SPINS DIZZILY AROUND... AND AROUND... AND AROUND!



THAT CAR IS TRAVELING AT ABOUT 100 MILES AN HOUR! THE EFFECT INSIDE SHOULD BE SOMETHING LIKE THE CATERPILLAR RIDE AT THE AMUSEMENT PARK-- ONLY WORSE! POOR LOIS! I WONDER HOW SHE'S FEELING?

HOW DOES LOIS FEEL? LET'S TAKE A QUICK LOOK INSIDE THE MADLY WHIRLING FREIGHT CAR...

OH! WH-WHAT A W-WAY S-SUPERMAN P-PICKED T-TO RESCUE M-ME! AM I S-SICK!

SHUT UP S-STUPID! I'D P-PUT YA OUTA M-MISERY WIT' P-PLEASURE--ONEY I C-CAN'T T-TELL IF I'M S-SITTIN', S-STANDIN' OR F-FLYIN'!

ONG-ONG!



AND WHEN THE MERRY-GO-ROUND SLOWS DOWN...

HAD ENOUGH, BOBO? DON'T TRY TO CRAWL! WE'LL CARRY YOU TO THE BIG HOUSE!

LOIS! I'M SORRY-- BUT THIS WAS THE ONLY WAY I COULD GET YOU SAFELY OUT OF HERE! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?



YOU SAVED ME, SUPERMAN! NOW I KNOW IT'S ME YOU LOVE-- NOT THAT PRUNEFACE NIKKI!

MAYBE NIKKI ISN'T PRETTY, LOIS! BUT I HAD TO CHOOSE BETWEEN BEAUTY AND BRAINS--AND I CHOSE BRAINS!



AND SINCE YOU'RE WELL ENOUGH TO WISECRACK, LOIS-- I THINK I CAN LEAVE YOU NOW! TA TA!

SUPERMAN! DON'T GO! DON'T... OH, WHAT'S THE USE? I MAY AS WELL FACE IT! HE D-DOESN'T LOVE ME ANY MORE! I'VE LOST HIM TO THAT ...THAT BRIDE OF FRANKENSTEIN! BOO-HOO...



AND WHEN LOIS RETURNS TO THE PLANET OFFICE, PERRY WHITE ADDS INSULT TO INJURY...

B-BOSS! YOU'RE ORDERING ME TO WRITE UP THE STORY OF HOW SUPERMAN JILTED ME? YOU CAN'T BE THAT CRUEL!

IT'LL BE A TERRIFIC SCOOP, LOIS--IT'LL DOUBLE OUR CIRCULATION! AS A GOOD REPORTER, YOU CAN'T REFUSE! START POUNDING THAT TYPEWRITER!

HOURS LATER, AN EXTRA EDITION OF THE DAILY PLANET HITS THE STREETS...WITH ITS UNUSUAL HUMAN INTEREST STORY...

DAILY PLANET
I WAS JILTED BY SUPERMAN!
A TRUE LIFE STORY...
By LOIS LANE
CHAPTER ONE:
SHE STOLE MY MAN!

ELSEWHERE IN TOWN, TWO SWARTHY STRANGERS SCAN THE HEADLINES WITH AVID INTEREST...

PAH, FAZIR! IT IS JUST THE STORY OF A BROKEN ROMANCE!

FOOL! FOR DAYS WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO APPROACH NIKKI. BECAUSE ALWAYS SHE IS WITH SUPERMAN! BUT NOW, THANKS TO THIS LOVESICK FEMALE, LOIS LANE--NOW WE HAVE OUR CHANCE!

YES, NIKKI IS ALWAYS WITH SUPERMAN! BUT HOW DO THEY SPEND THEIR TIME, THIS MOST ROMANTIC COUPLE IN THE ANNALS OF HISTORY? LET US SEE...

WELL, NIKKI--I GUESS WE'RE READY FOR THE LAST STEP OF YOUR EXPERIMENT--THE CYCLOTRON!

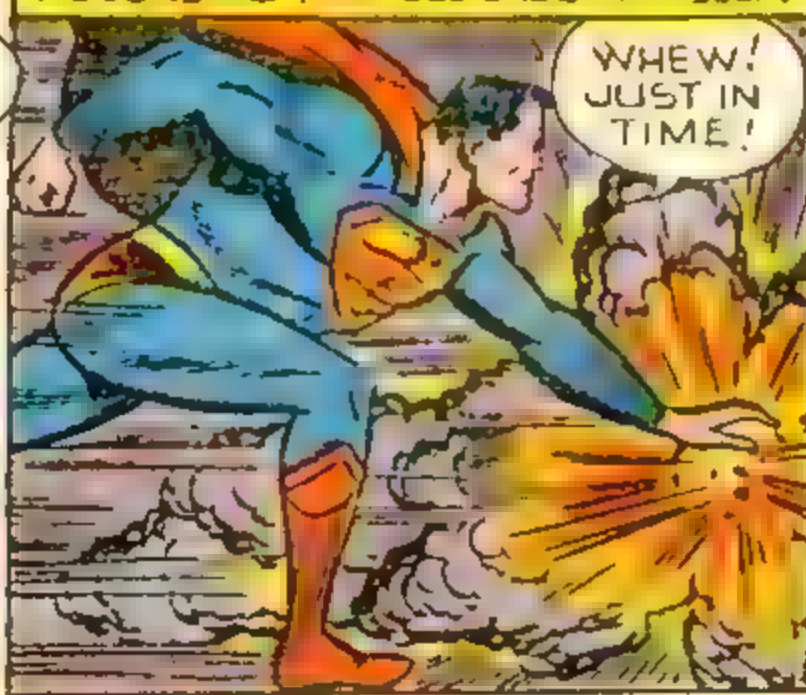
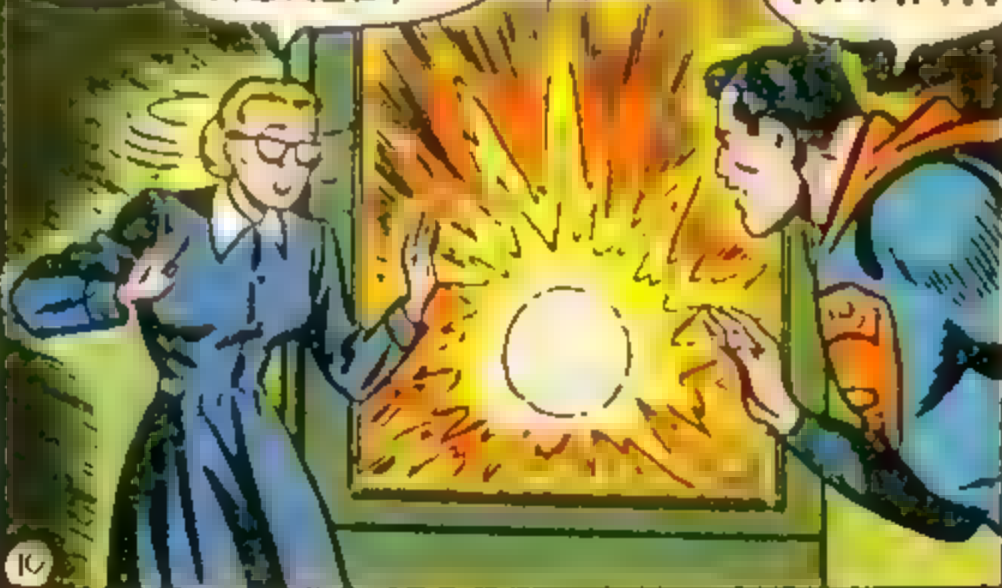
YES, SUPERMAN! I'LL PULL THE LEVER NOW! BUT I MUST TELL YOU IT'S BEEN WONDERFUL WORKING WITH YOU BY MY SIDE!

HERE IT GOES--SUPERMAN! SOMETHING'S WRONG! THE CYCLOTRON HAS SPLIT THE ATOMS ALL RIGHT--BUT THE PLUTONIUM THAT'S LEFT IS GOING TO EXPLODE! IT'LL SET OFF A CHAIN REACTION THAT WILL WIPE OUT THE WORLD!

WHAT???

IN ONE SPLIT SECOND, SUPERMAN CRASHES INTO THE CYCLOTRON AND SMOTHERS THE ATOMIC EXPLOSION, ABSORBING THE FULL SHOCK HIMSELF!

WHEW! JUST IN TIME!





YOU'VE SAVED THE WORLD FROM ALMOST CERTAIN DESTRUCTION, **SUPERMAN!** AND NOW I KNOW THE EXACT FORMULA I HAVE BEEN SEARCHING FOR! THANK YOU!

FINE, NIKKI! LET'S ADD IT TO OUR BLUEPRINTS, AND WE'RE FINISHED! BUT DON'T THANK ME—YOU'RE WONDERFUL, NIKKI!

THAT FOREIGNER, FAZIR, TOLD ME I'D FIND NIKKI AND **SUPERMAN** HERE! I HOPE THIS IS THE RIGHT PLACE! I NEED THEM FOR THE NEXT CHAPTER OF MY STORY... OH, OH! SOUNDS LIKE THEM ALL RIGHT! SIGH!

..YOU'RE WONDERFUL, NIKKI!

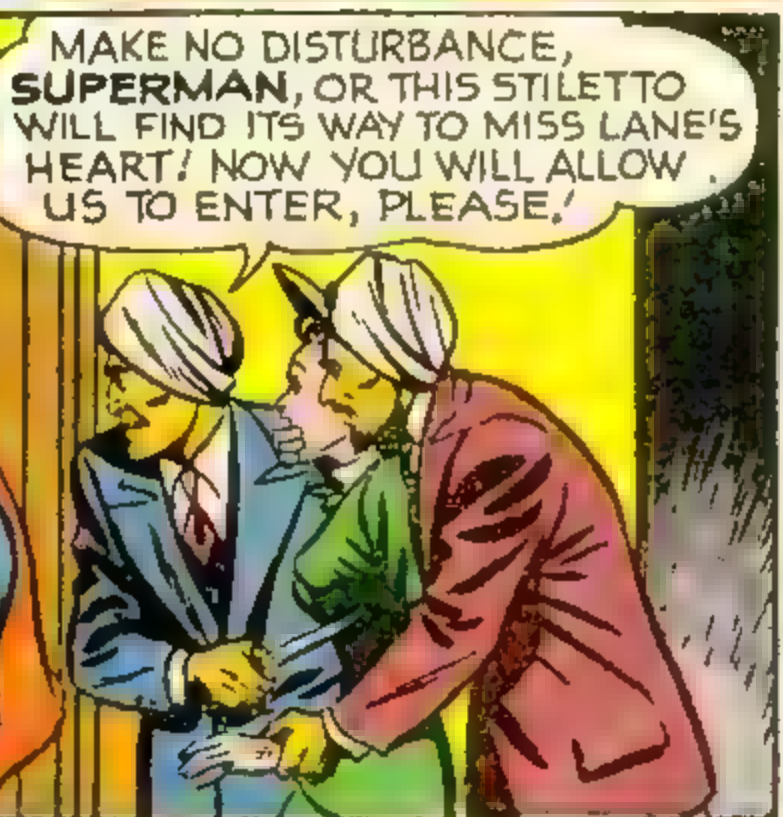


BUT EVEN AS LOIS KNOCKS, A HAND SNAKES OUT!

MMMMPPHH!



WHO'S THERE... LOIS!

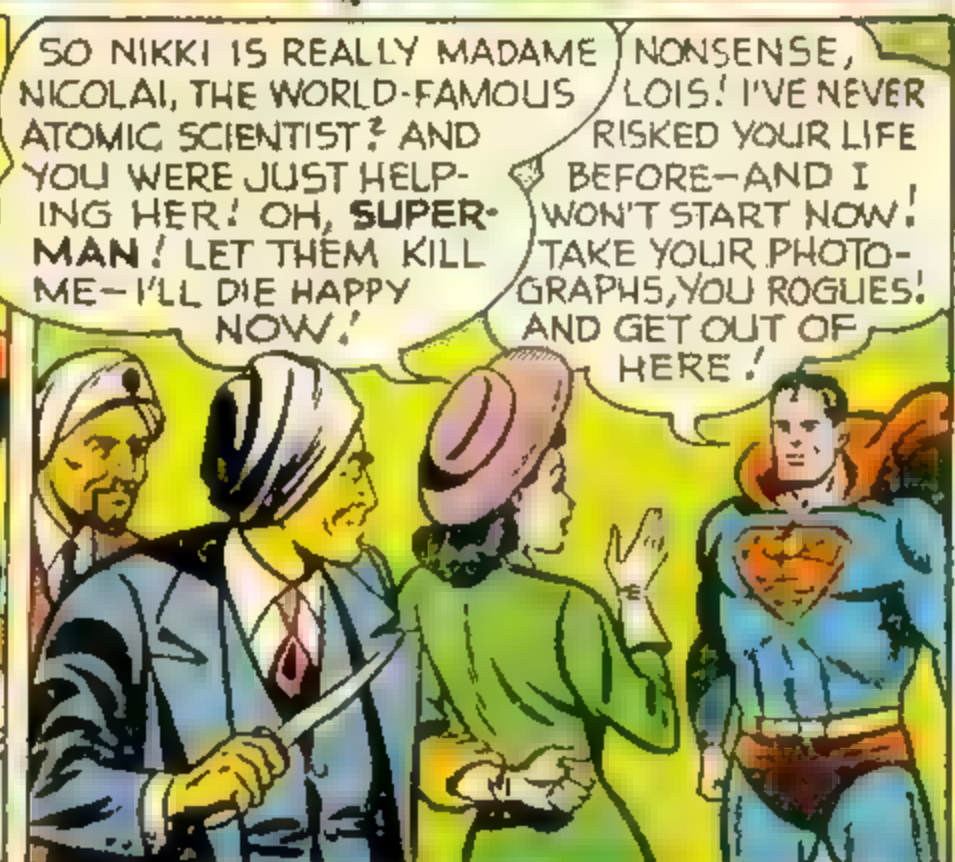


MAKE NO DISTURBANCE, **SUPERMAN**, OR THIS STILETTO WILL FIND ITS WAY TO MISS LANE'S HEART! NOW YOU WILL ALLOW US TO ENTER, PLEASE!



AH, SO! THE BLUE-PRINTS OF YOUR WORK HERE IN AMERICA, MME. NICOLAI! VERY CONVENIENT! I'LL TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS OF THEM!

IF I MAKE A MOVE TO STOP THEM, THEY'LL KILL LOIS! THEY'VE GOT ME STYMIED!



SO NIKKI IS REALLY MADAME NICOLAI, THE WORLD-FAMOUS ATOMIC SCIENTIST? AND YOU WERE JUST HELPING HER! OH, **SUPERMAN!** LET THEM KILL ME—I'LL DIE HAPPY NOW!

NONSENSE, LOIS! I'VE NEVER RISKED YOUR LIFE BEFORE—AND I WON'T START NOW! TAKE YOUR PHOTOGRAPHS, YOU ROGUES! AND GET OUT OF HERE!

BUT AS FAZIR IS ABOUT TO SNAP THE PICTURES, SUPERMAN TURNS HIS POWERFUL X-RAY EYES ON THE CAMERA...

YOU'RE A WISE MAN, SUPERMAN! I WILL QUICKLY SNAP THE PICTURES AND DEPART WITH MY FRIEND! I KNOW YOU'LL KEEP YOUR WORD!

YES—LOOKS LIKE YOU GOT THE BEST OF ME AFTER ALL! ("—BUT APPEARANCES ARE SOMETIMES DECEIVING!—")

AND WHEN THE SPIES HAVE LEFT MINUTES LATER...

SUPERMAN! YOU LET THEM GO WITH THE PHOTOGRAPHS OF OUR EXPERIMENTS!

IT'S ALL RIGHT, NIKKI! MY X-RAY VISION SPOILED THEIR PICTURES! YOU SEE, X-RAY RADIATIONS HAVE THE POWER TO RUIN FILM NEGATIVES. THEY'LL RETURN TO THEIR COUNTRY WITH BLANK PHOTOS—AND THEIR RULERS WILL PUNISH THEM FOR THEIR FAILURE

THANK YOU, SUPERMAN! WHILE YOU'RE GONE, I'LL TRY TO EXPLAIN THINGS TO MISS LANE!

NOW IF YOU LADIES WILL EXCUSE ME, I'LL TAKE THESE BLUE-PRINTS TO WASHINGTON! OUR GOVERNMENT'S WAITING FOR THEM!

I KNOW YOU LOVE SUPERMAN, LOIS—BUT YOU NEEDN'T HAVE WORRIED ABOUT ME! YOU SEE, YOUR GOVERNMENT ASKED ME TO COME TO AMERICA TO EXPERIMENT WITH ATOMIC ENERGY! IT WAS TOP SECRET!

OH! OH!

TO PROTECT ME FROM SPIES, WE ARRANGED FOR SUPERMAN TO BECOME MY "SWEETHEART"! THAT WAY, HE COULD GUARD ME CONSTANTLY WITHOUT AROUSING SUSPICION ABOUT WHAT I WAS DOING HERE!

FORGIVE ME, MME. NICOLAI! I REALIZE NOW HOW SILLY I'VE BEEN!

BUT THE NEXT DAY, IN THE DAILY PLANET OFFICE...

SO YOU FOUND OUT SUPERMAN WASN'T IN LOVE WITH NIKKI! ON THE OTHER HAND, IT DOESN'T MEAN THAT HE'S IN LOVE WITH YOU, LOIS!

GOLLY! YOU'RE RIGHT, CLARK! AFTER ALL I WENT THROUGH, I STILL DON'T KNOW WHETHER HE LOVES ME OR NOT! JEEPEERS! I WONDER IF I'LL EVER KNOW?

THE END



ALL AROUND US THERE EXISTS A MYRIAD OF NEW WORLDS TO EXPLORE, RIGHT UNDER OUR OWN THUMBS, NAMELY, THE **ATOM WORLDS!** AND IN 1989, WITH ALL PLANETS EXPLORED, TOMMY TOMORROW OPENS UP THE UNIVERSE OF THE INFINITELY SMALL! THE DARING PLANETEER BLAZES A TRAIL DOWN INTO THE SUBMICROSCOPIC COSMOS, WHERE ATOMS ARE WORLDS AND ELECTRONS ARE STARS! AND IN PURSUIT OF CUNNING SPACE PIRATES, THE FUTURE MAN FOLLOWS A TRAIL INTO TININESS TO UNCOVER...

"THE TREASURE IN THE ATOM!"

ON LEAVE, BACK ON HIS HOME PLANET EARTH, COLONEL TOMMY TOMORROW OF THE PLANETEERS CURLS UP WITH A BEST SELLER... A **TALKING BOOK OF 1989!**

GUNS ROARED OUT AS THE JOVIANS ATTACKED THE EARTH COLONY!

BUT TOMMY'S RING RADIO SUDDENLY FLARES OUT AN URGENT SUMMONS!

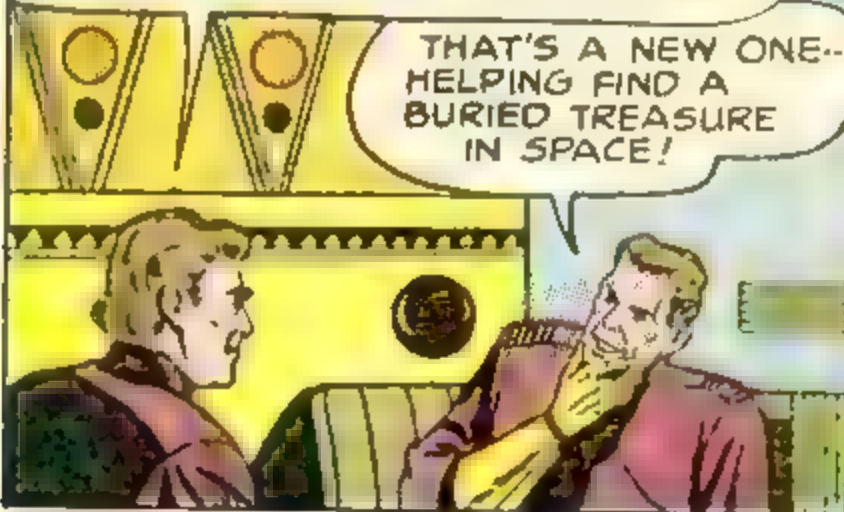
PLANETEERS HEADQUARTERS CALLING TOMMY TOMORROW! REPORT IMMEDIATELY FOR SPECIAL DUTY!

AYE SIR!

AT PLANETEER HEADQUARTERS, EARTH DIVISION...

A PROSPECTOR AND HIS DAUGHTER, UP IN THE ASTEROIDS, FOUND AN OLD SPACE PIRATES TREASURE MAP, BUT SINCE THE DIRECTIONS FOR TRACKING DOWN THE TREASURE ARE VERY PUZZLING, HE ASKED FOR OUR AID!

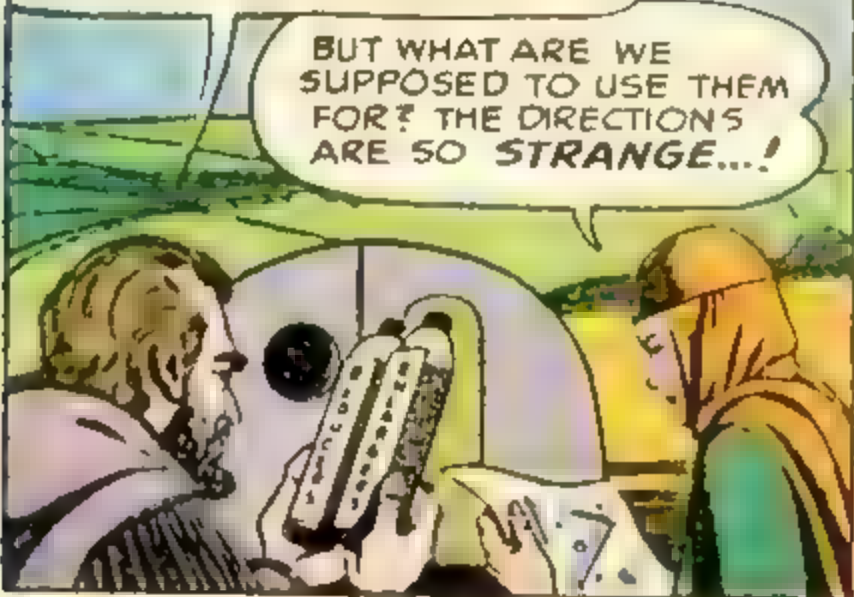
THAT'S A NEW ONE--
HELPING FIND A
BURIED TREASURE
IN SPACE!



MEANWHILE, ON A LONELY ASTEROID REVOLVING BETWEEN MARS AND JUPITER, THE OLD PROSPECTOR AND HIS DAUGHTER EXCITEDLY PLAN THEIR TREASURE HUNT!

ELAINE, I MADE THE **REDUCERS** AND **ENLARGERS**, ACCORDING TO THE FORMULA ON THE MAP.

BUT WHAT ARE WE
SUPPOSED TO USE THEM
FOR? THE DIRECTIONS
ARE SO **STRANGE**...!



AND WHEN TOMMY TOMORROW ARRIVES, IT IS ONLY TO HEAR OF THE RUTHLESS RAID AND ESCAPE OF THE PIRATES!

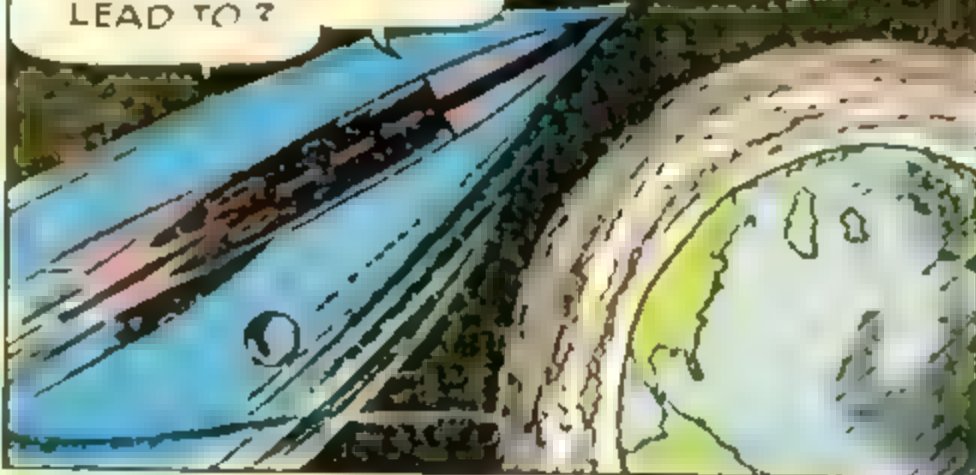
... AND THEY ROCKETED
AWAY WITH THE
TREASURE MAP
AND THE "SIZE" PILLS!

DID THE MAP
INDICATE WHERE
THOSE PIRATES
MIGHT GO FIRST?



SOON, FROM SPACE PORT, TOMMY TOMORROW BLASTS INTO THE INTERPLANETARY VOID...

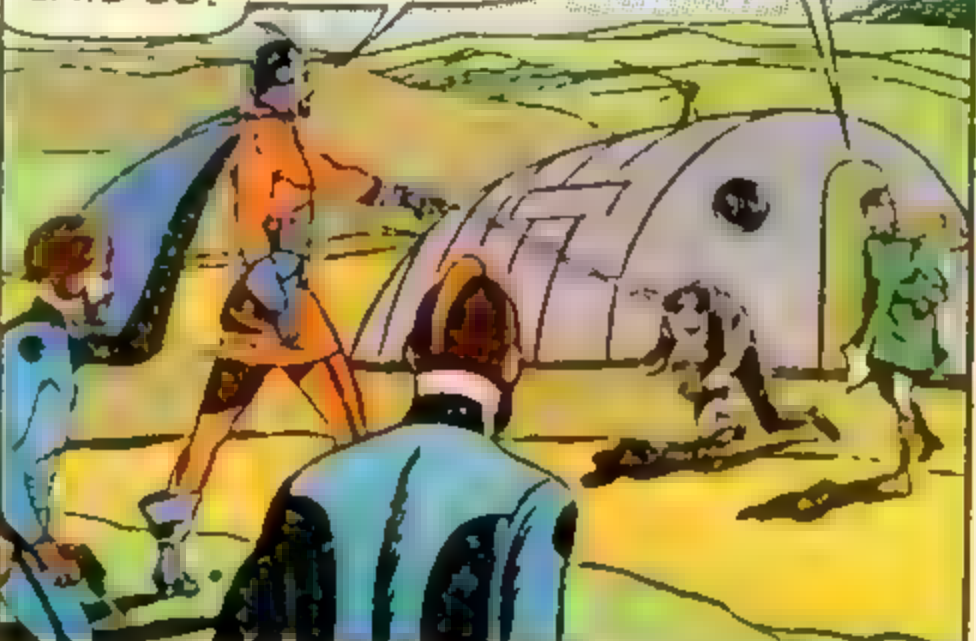
PIRATES OF ALL AGES WERE MASTERS OF DEVisING INGENUOUS HIDING PLACES FOR THEIR LOOT! I WONDER WHERE THIS TREASURE HUNT WILL LEAD TO?



SUDDENLY--WITHOUT WARNING--COMES A SURPRISE ATTACK BY A NOTORIOUS INTER-PLANETARY BUCCANEER!...

I INTERCEPTED YOUR RADIO CALL TO EARTH! I'LL TAKE THAT TREASURE MAP! A RAY FROM MY IRON HAND SAYS SO!

IRON HAND,
THE PIRATE
CHIEF!



YES, WE FIGURED OUT THE FIRST MAP CLUE... IT SAID TO START FROM JUNO AND GO TEN ASTEROIDS EAST, THEN TWENTY ASTEROIDS NORTH! BUT PLEASE LET ME GO WITH YOU, COLONEL TOMORROW, WHAT WITH MY FATHER DEAD...

**BRAVE
GIRL!
COME
ALONG!**



WINDING IN AND OUT OF THE ASTEROID BELT, THE STRANGE TREASURE HUNT OF SPACE BEGINS!

TEN ASTEROIDS EAST, AND NOW TWENTY NORTH! IF WE CATCH UP WITH **IRON HAND**, WE'LL CONTINUE THE TREASURE HUNT OURSELVES!

MEANWHILE, HAVING REACHED THE DESIGNATED ASTEROID, **IRON HAND** IS ALREADY FOLLOWING FURTHER MAP DIRECTIONS!

THE **BURNING PATH**-- THAT COULD ONLY MEAN THE TRAIL LEADING THROUGH THOSE CLIFFS OF RADIUM UP AHEAD!

... AND 20 ASTEROIDS NORTH. THEN FOLLOW THE BURNING PATH TO SECRET CAVE WITH SOUND DOOR. WITHIN IS TREASURE ATOM AND...

THE RADIUM PATH! RUN **FAST**, OR THE RADIOACTIVE RAYS WILL BURN US! THAT WAS ONE OF THE HAZARDS OLD **BLACKHEART** PUT IN THE WAY OF FINDING HIS LOOT!

THE SECRET CAVE AND SOUND DOOR! THAT MEANS IT OPENS BY VOICE!... **OPEN!... UNLOCK!... BLAST IT, WHAT'S THE KEY WORD? THE OLD SCOUNDREL DIDN'T TELL US THAT!**

WAIT! I'VE COME ACROSS A SETUP LIKE THIS BEFORE-- IN AN ANCIENT LEGEND! A MAGIC WORD OPENED A SECRET DOOR! THE WORD WAS... **SESAME!**

THAT'S IT! THE DOOR'S OPENING! THE TREASURE MUST BE INSIDE!

A SHORT TIME LATER, BLAZING ACROSS SPACE, **TOMMY TOMORROW** ARRIVES, AND...

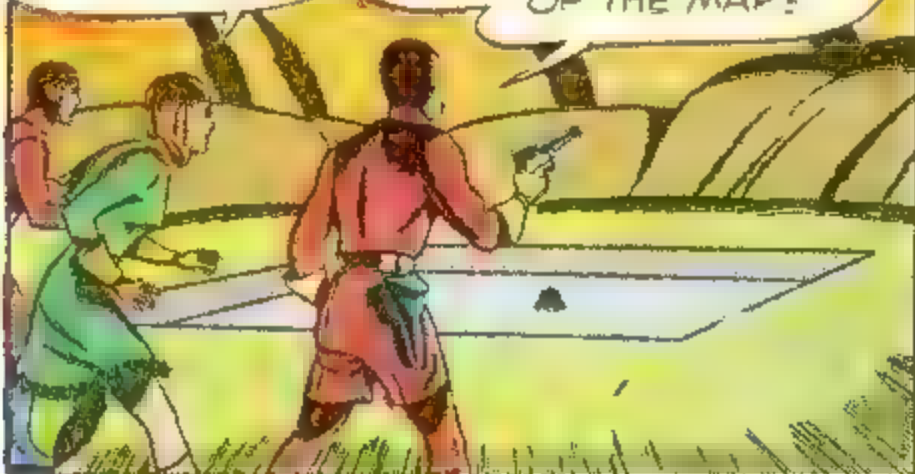
I ALSO DECIPHERED THE BURNING PATH AND SECRET CAVE-- THERE IT IS!

IT'S BEEN OPENED! **IRON HAND** MUST BE INSIDE!

BUT WHEN THE TREASURE-SEEKERS BURST INTO THE CAVE, THEY MEET A STUNNING MYSTERY!

NO TREASURE HERE! AND THE PIRATES -- THEY **VANISHED!**

IMPOSSIBLE! THERE'S NO OTHER WAY OUT OF THE CAVE! ELAINE, DO YOU REMEMBER ANY MORE OF THE MAP?



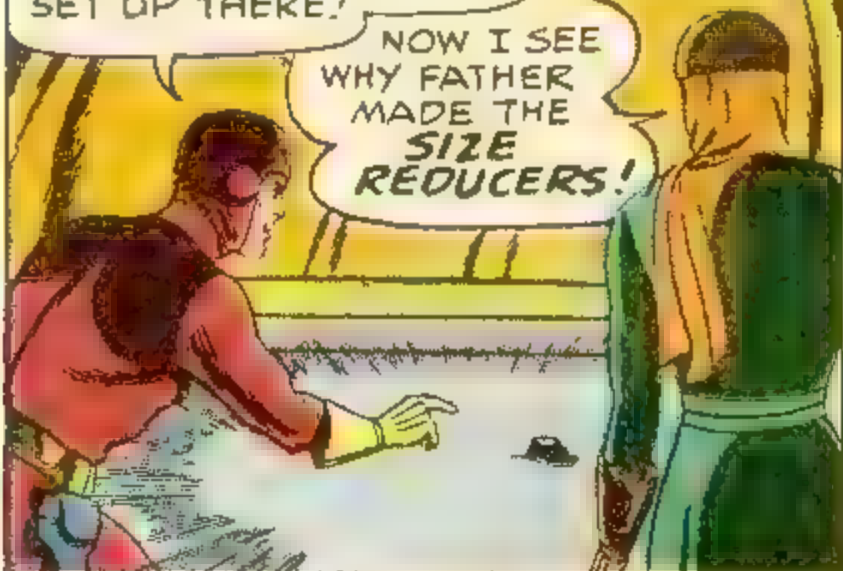
THE REST WAS GIBBERISH, SOMETHING ABOUT **TREASURE ATOM!**

TREASURE ATOM? GREAT STARS! I WONDER IF THAT HAS ANY CONNECTION WITH THAT FAMOUS CLASSIC, "TREASURE ISLAND"?



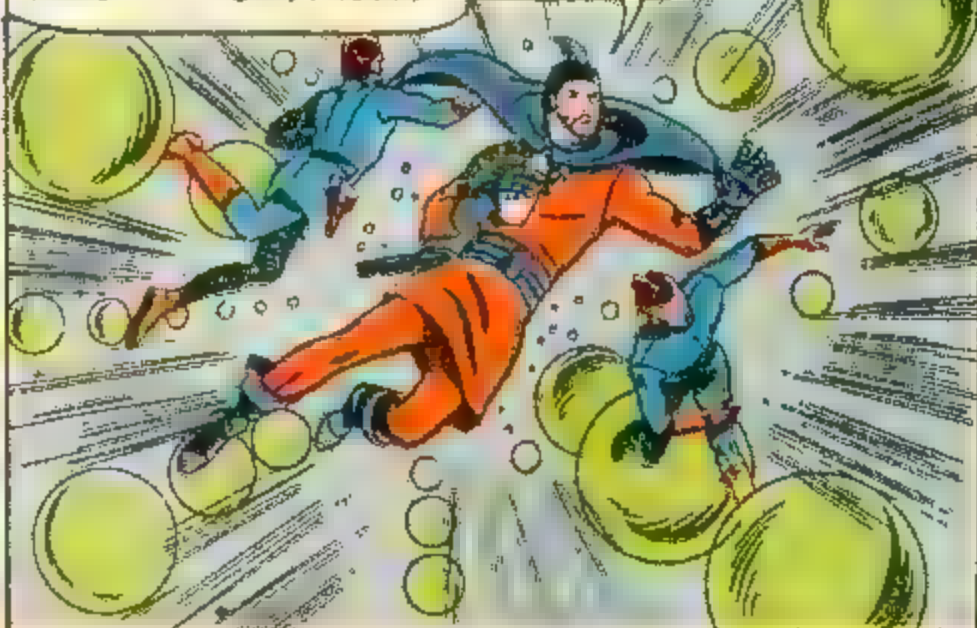
BLACKHEART FOUND THE GREATEST HIDING-PLACE OF ALL FOR HIS LOOT... NOT ON **THIS** WORLD... BUT INSIDE ANOTHER WORLD... AN **ATOMIC** WORLD! HE NAMED IT **TREASURE ATOM!** IT MUST BE INSIDE THAT SPECK OF METAL, SO CAREFULLY SET UP THERE!

NOW I SEE WHY FATHER MADE THE **SIZE REDUCERS!**



ONE STEP AHEAD OF TOMMY TOMORROW, IRON HAND IS ALREADY UTILIZING THE STRANGE COMPOUND WHICH OPENS THE PATH TO A FANTASTIC NEW UNIVERSE!

THESE **REDUCERS** ARE A COMPOUND THAT SHRINKS YOU DOWN TO ATOMIC SIZE! THOSE ARE ALL **ATOMS** AROUND US, MEN!



MEANWHILE, BACK IN THE NORMAL UNIVERSE, ELAINE GIVES TOMMY A MEANS OF PURSUIT!

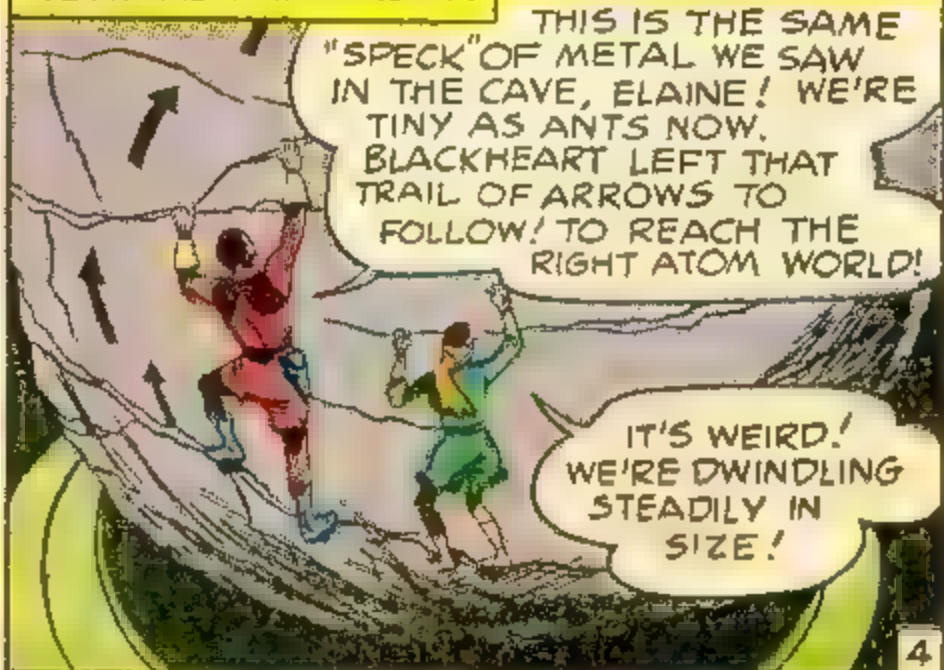
MY FATHER GAVE ME SOME OF THE SIZE REDUCERS BEFORE IRON HAND CAME!

GOOD! WE'LL CHASE THAT PIRATE RIGHT DOWN INTO THE ATOM WORLD!



LEAVING HIS CREW ON GUARD, TOMMY AND THE DARING GIRL SWALLOW THE POWERFUL ATOM-SHRINKING COMPOUND -- AND THE CHASE CONTINUES DOWN INTO THE INFINITESIMAL UNIVERSE...

THIS IS THE SAME "SPECK" OF METAL WE SAW IN THE CAVE, ELAINE! WE'RE TINY AS ANTS NOW. BLACKHEART LEFT THAT TRAIL OF ARROWS TO FOLLOW! TO REACH THE RIGHT ATOM WORLD!



IT'S WEIRD! WE'RE DWINDLING STEADILY IN SIZE!

THE SPECK BECOMES A MOUNTAIN, AND THE MOUNTAIN TURNS INTO A UNIVERSE!

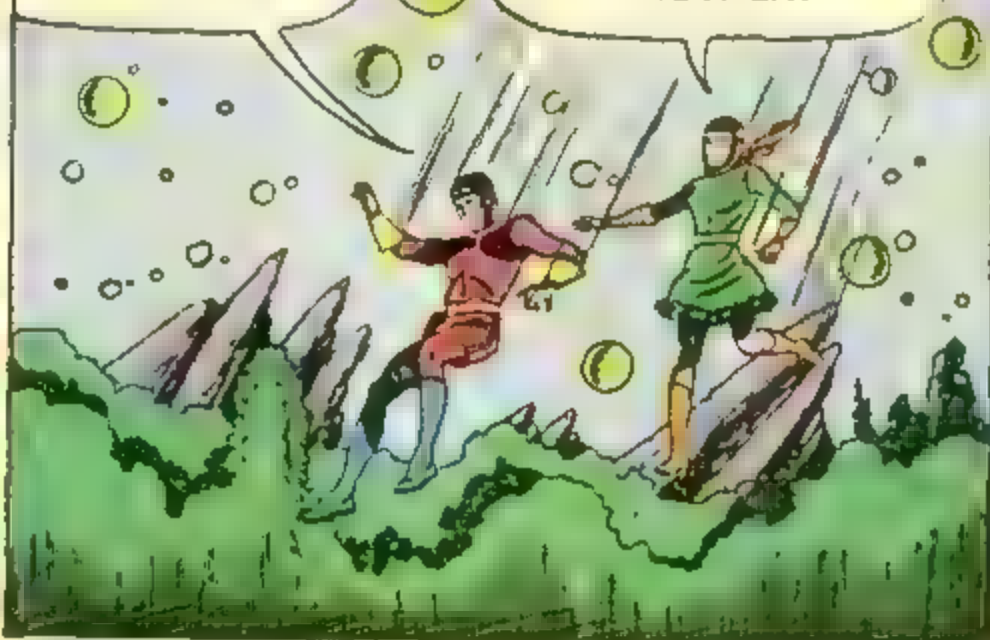
WE'RE TINY AS ATOMS NOW!

DOWN, DOWN-- WE GO. AND AS WE KEEP REDUCING IN SIZE, THE ATOMS WILL BECOME **WORLDS** TO US!



AND THIS IS THE NEAREST ATOM WORLD!

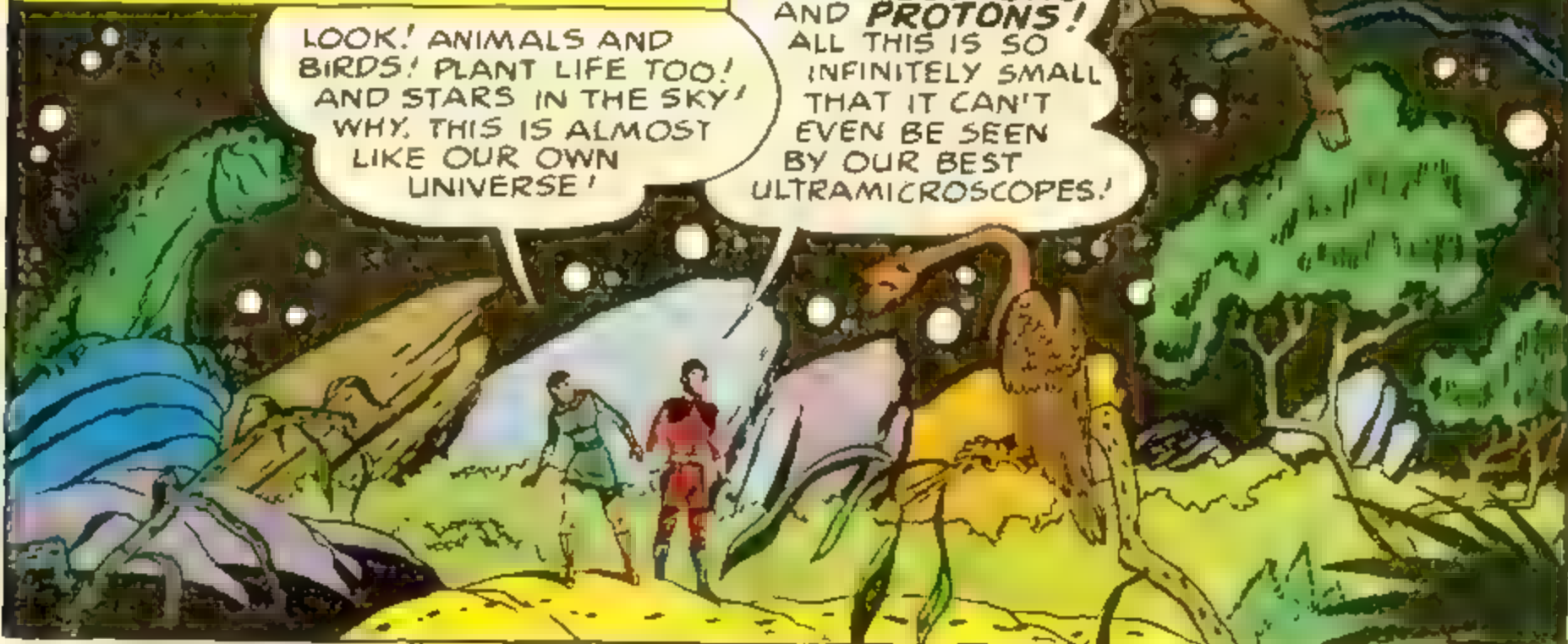
WHAT A JUMP FROM ONE WORLD TO ANOTHER!



THE SIZE-SHRINKING CEASES, AND THE TWO EARTH HUMANS FIND THEMSELVES IN AN ATOMIC UNIVERSE!

LOOK! ANIMALS AND BIRDS! PLANT LIFE TOO! AND STARS IN THE SKY! WHY, THIS IS ALMOST LIKE OUR OWN UNIVERSE!

EXCEPT THAT THOSE "STARS" ARE **ELECTRONS** AND **PROTONS**! ALL THIS IS SO INFINITELY SMALL THAT IT CAN'T EVEN BE SEEN BY OUR BEST ULTRAMICROSCOPES!

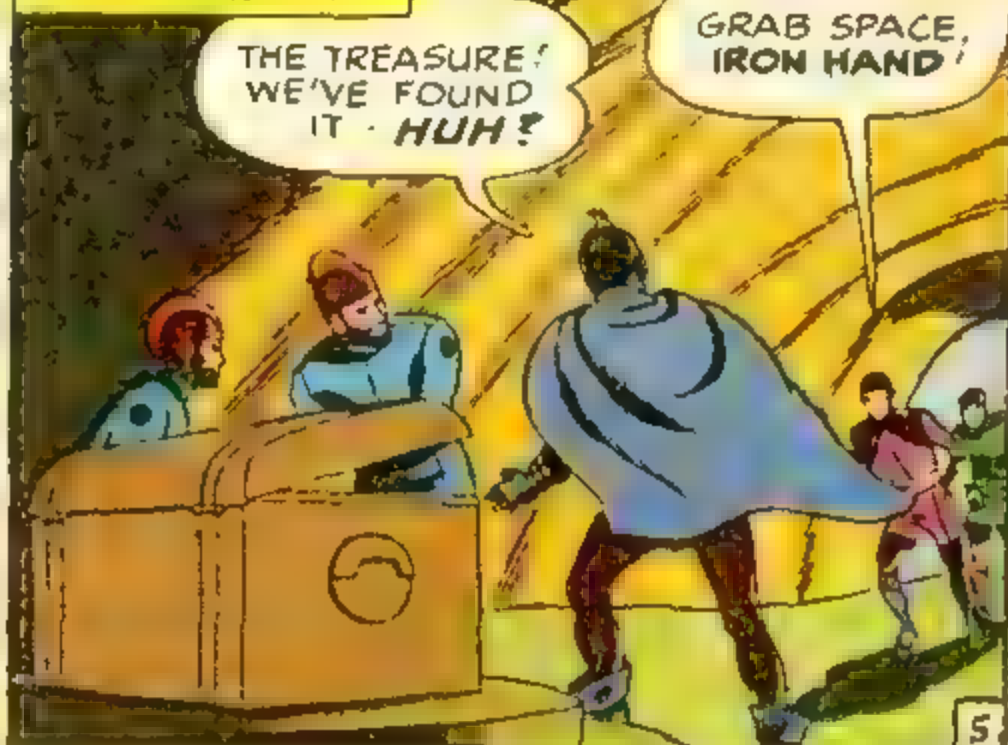


BUT WE'VE NO TIME FOR ATOM-GAZING... REMEMBER, WE'RE HERE TO FIND **IRON HAND** AND THE TREASURE! SEE... HE LANDED HERE, TOO... AND LEFT HIS TRAIL!

IRON HAND'S TRAIL LEADS ACROSS A BIZARRE ATOMIC TERRAIN TO THE INTERIOR OF A STONE CAIRN WHERE...

THE TREASURE! WE'VE FOUND IT - **HUH?**

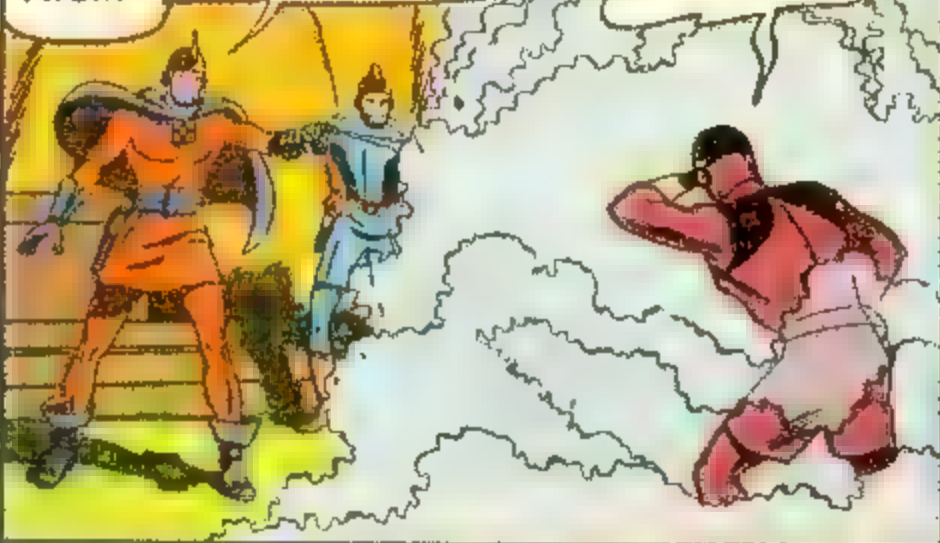
GRAB SPACE, **IRON HAND**!



BUT THE CUNNING FREEBOOTER OF SPACE HAS MANY TRICKS UP HIS SLEEVE... LITERALLY!

SMOKE GETS IN YOUR EYES, PAL -- WHILE MY MEN AND I HOP DOWN INTO ANOTHER ATOM!

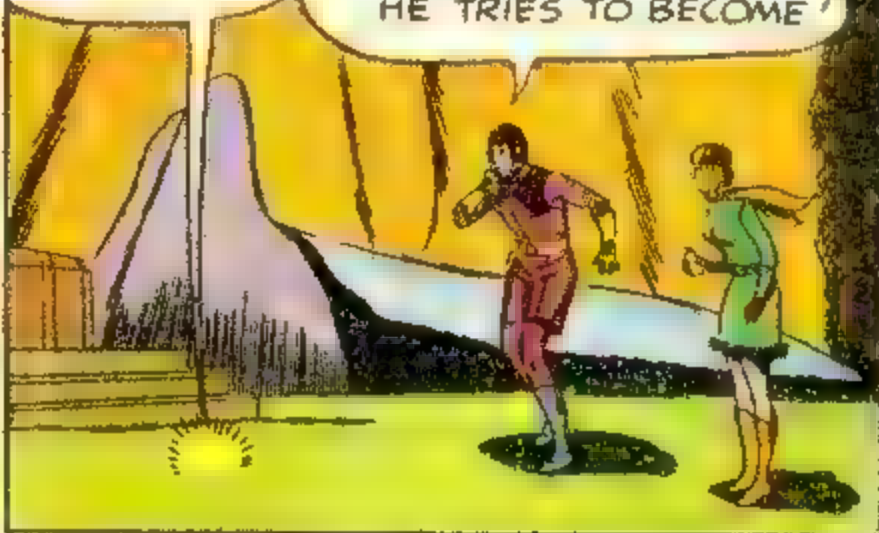
UNNH



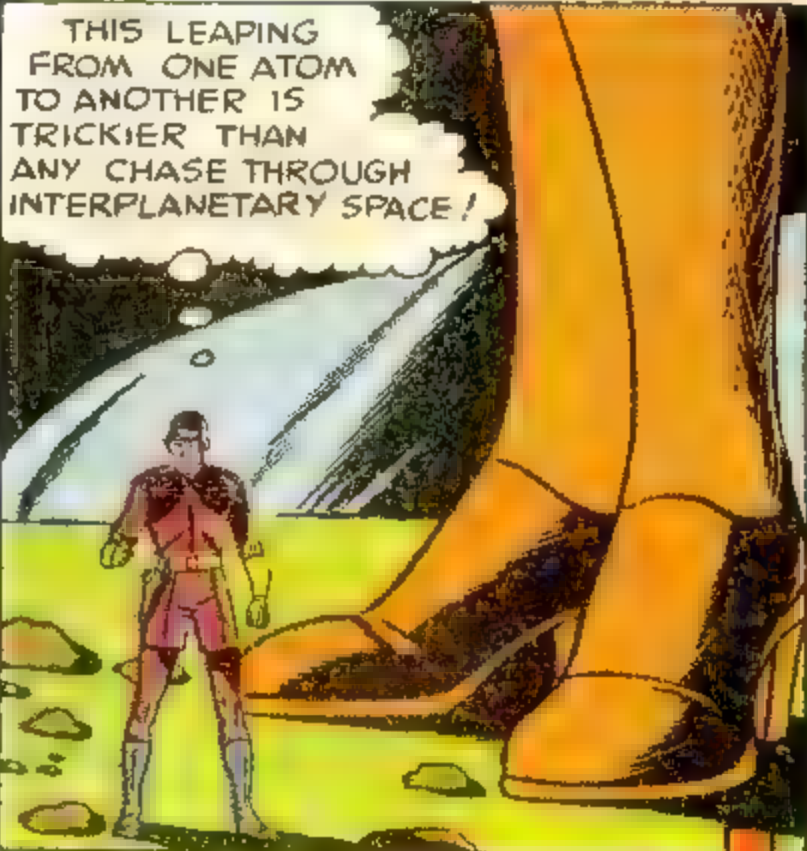
AND WHEN TOMMY RECOVERS, HIS QUARRY IS SLIPPING AWAY AGAIN -- INTO FURTHER SMALLNESS!

TRY AND FIND US NOW, PLANETEER! HA! HA!

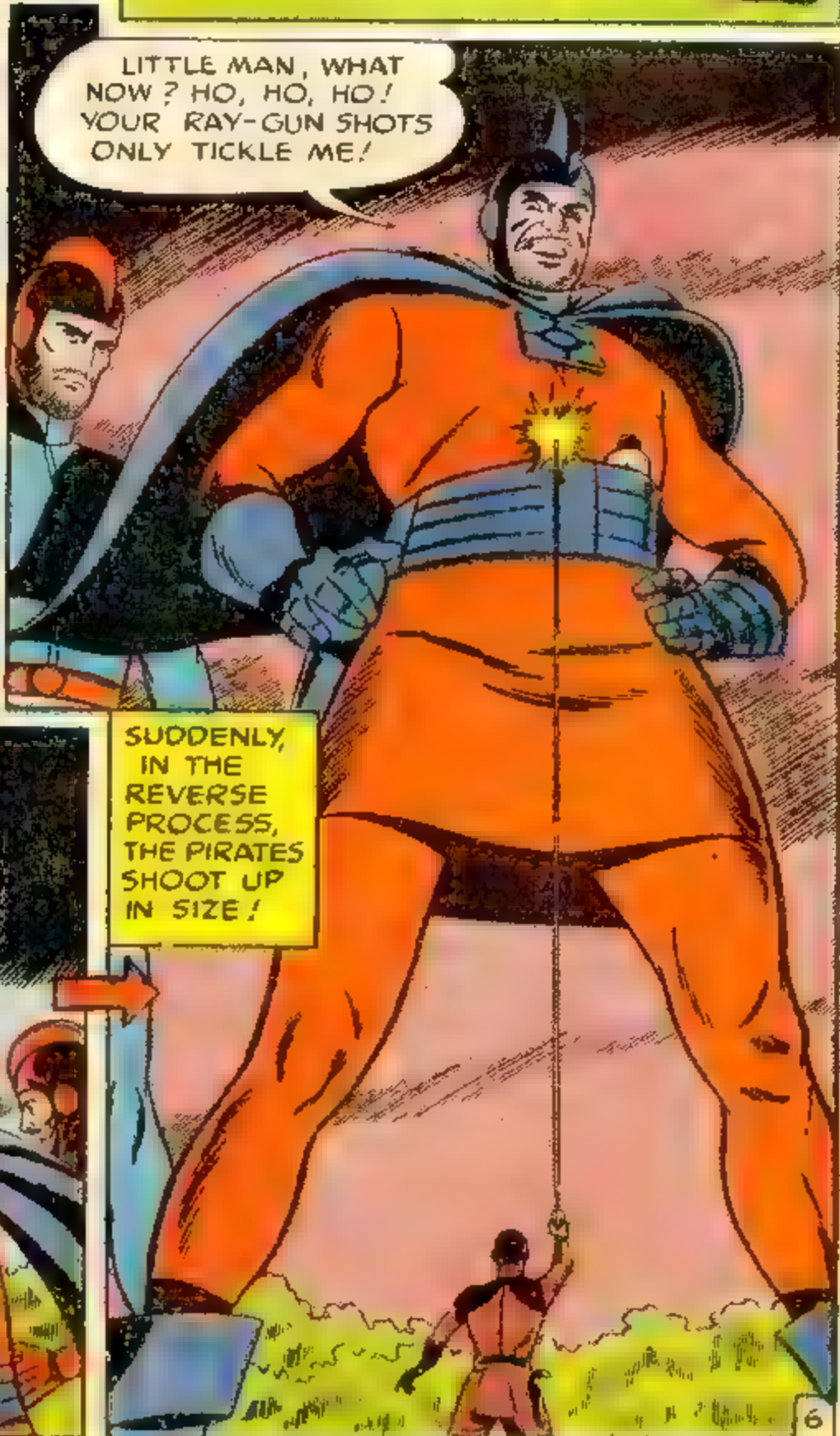
WAIT HERE, ELAINE! I'M TAKING A REDUCER, TOO! I'LL GET IRON HAND NO MATTER HOW SMALL HE TRIES TO BECOME!



THIS LEAPING FROM ONE ATOM TO ANOTHER IS TRICKIER THAN ANY CHASE THROUGH INTERPLANETARY SPACE!



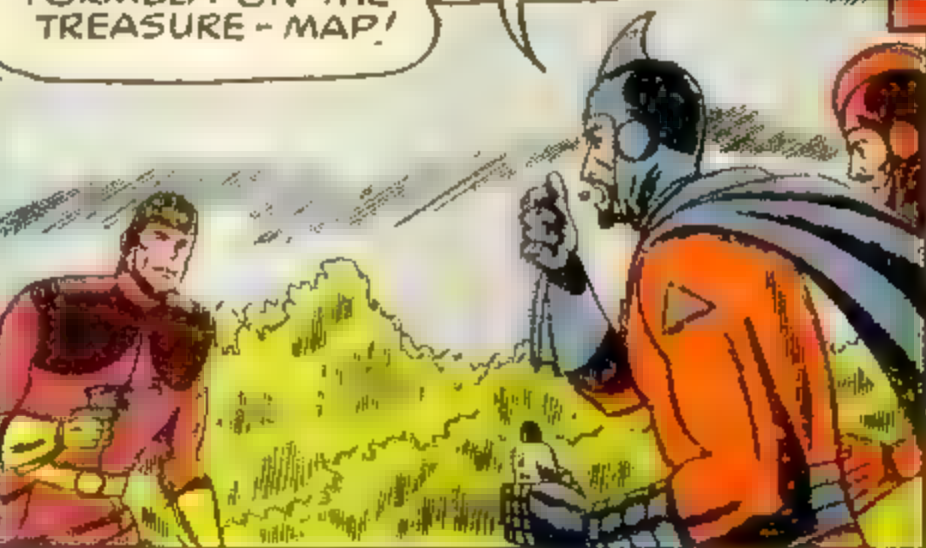
LITTLE MAN, WHAT NOW? HO, HO, HO! YOUR RAY-GUN SHOTS ONLY TICKLE ME!



AND FINALLY IN A SUBATOMIC WORLD OF THE ATOM WORLD...

HERE COMES THE PLANETEER -- RIGHT INTO MY TRAP! NOW WE GIVE HIM THE OLD DOUBLE-CROSS AND TAKE THE **ENLARGERS**, WHICH THE OLD PROSPECTOR MADE FROM THE FORMULA ON THE TREASURE-MAP!

SUDDENLY, IN THE REVERSE PROCESS, THE PIRATES SHOOT UP IN SIZE!



TOMMY TOMORROW FLEES DESPERATELY, AS MIGHTY FEET THREATEN TO CRUSH HIM LIKE AN ANT!

HO, HO, HO! FAREWELL, COLONEL! DON'T LET YOUR SIZE GET YOU DOWN!

THUD!

WHEN IRON HAND EMERGES INTO THE ATOM OF THE TREASURE CAIRN, HE GLOATS OVER THE PLANETEER'S FLIGHT...

SOMEWHERE DOWN THERE TOMMY TOMORROW IS MAROONED ON A SUBATOMIC WORLD-- **WITHOUT ANY ENLARGERS!** HE'S AN ATOMIC PRISONER-- SERVING A LIFE SENTENCE!

OH! I GAVE TOMMY NO **ENLARGERS**-- ONLY **REDUCERS!**

AS THE TREASURE HUNGRY PIRATES CARRY THE CHEST OUTSIDE, ELAINE DESPERATELY SEEKS A PLAN TO RESCUE TOMMY TOMORROW...

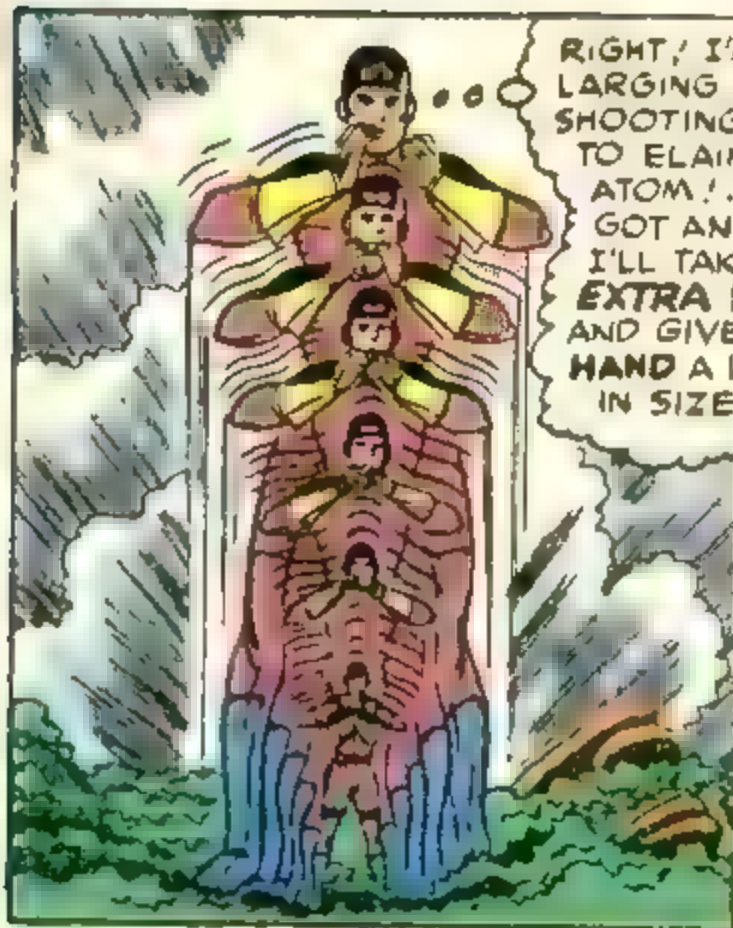
WE'LL OPEN THE TREASURE CHEST OUTSIDE!

THEY AREN'T WATCHING! I CAN SNEAK AN ENLARGER FROM THE BOTTLE!

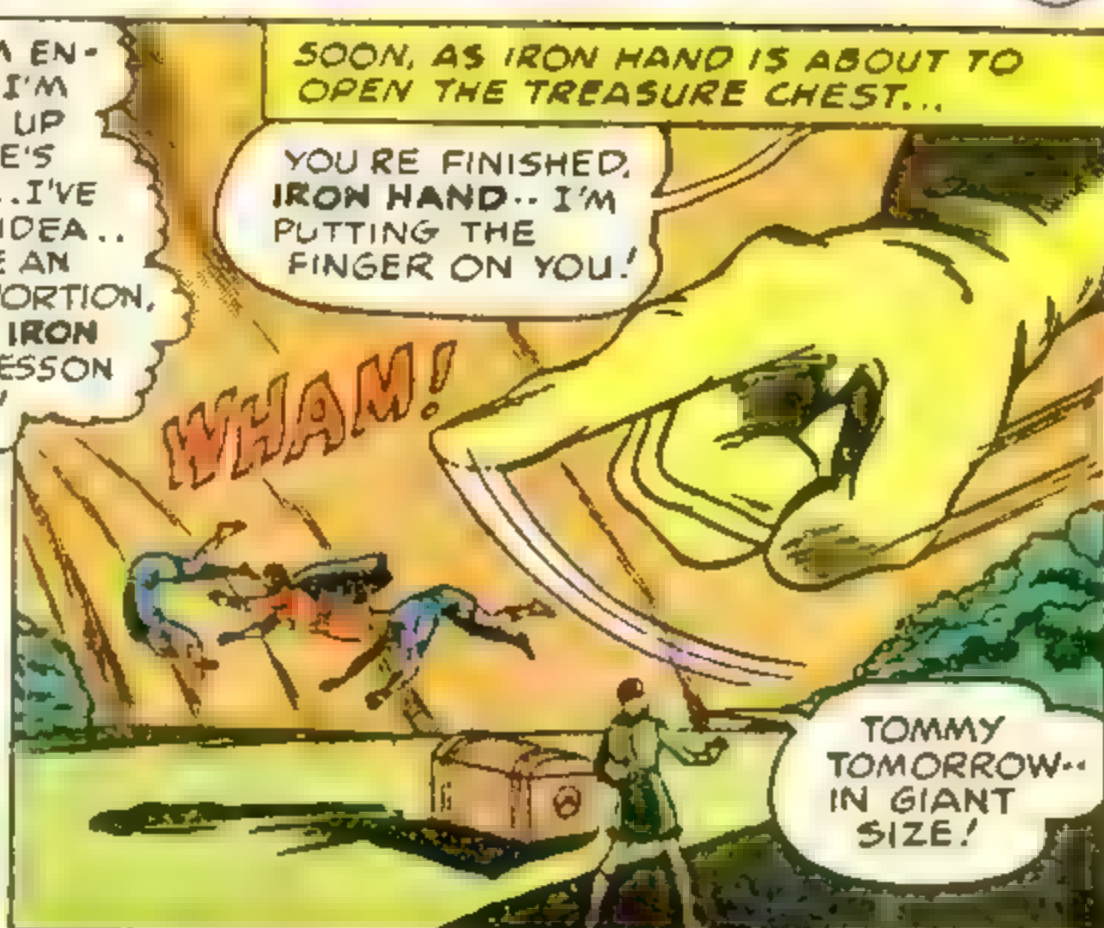
ONLY ONE CHANCE-- TO SPREAD **ENLARGER POWDER** OVER THE GROUND AND HOPE THAT SOME OF IT REACHES TOMMY TOMORROW!

DOWN IN THE SUBATOMIC UNIVERSE, THE "POWDER" TURNS INTO A TREMENDOUS SHOWER OF HUGE **METEORS!**

BOMBARDED BY METEORS! WAIT-- **WHITE** METEORS! IT'S A WILD THOUGHT-- BUT MAYBE ELAINE HAS GROUND AN **ENLARGER** PILL TO POWDER AND IS SENDING SOME DOWN TO ME...



RIGHT! I'M EN-LARGING! I'M SHOOTING UP TO ELAINE'S ATOM!...I'VE GOT AN IDEA... I'LL TAKE AN **EXTRA** PORTION, AND GIVE **IRON HAND** A LESSON IN SIZE!



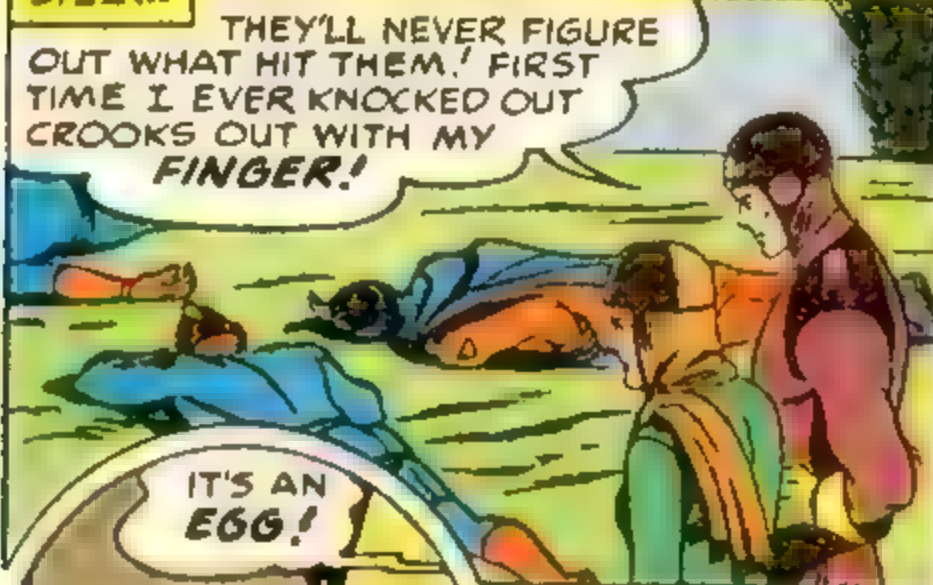
SOON, AS **IRON HAND** IS ABOUT TO OPEN THE TREASURE CHEST...

YOU'RE FINISHED, **IRON HAND**... I'M PUTTING THE FINGER ON YOU!

WHAM!

TOMMY TOMORROW-- IN GIANT SIZE!

WITH THE PIRATES HELPLESSLY SPRAWLED OUT, **TOMMY** REDUCES HIMSELF TO NORMAL SIZE...



THEY'LL NEVER FIGURE OUT WHAT HIT THEM! FIRST TIME I EVER KNOCKED OUT CROOKS OUT WITH MY **FINGER!**

IT'S AN **EGG!**



YES, BUT IT HAPPENS TO BE THE EGG OF THE EXTINCT VENUTIAN DRAGON! IT'S HATCHING, UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF AIR AND WARMTH! THE INTERPLANETARY ZOO WILL PAY YOU A FABULOUS PRICE FOR THIS BABY DRAGON!

THEN IT'S A REAL TREASURE AFTER ALL!



THEN... UP... UP... UP... OUT OF THE ATOM WORLD AND INTO THE ASTEROID CAVE AGAIN!



THE TREASURE IS ALL YOURS, **ELAINE!** LET'S SEE WHAT IT IS!

I CAN HARDLY WAIT-- GOODNESS! **LOOK!**

LATER, AS **COLONEL TOMORROW** REPORTS TO HEADQUARTERS...

IRON HAND IS JAILED! THE GIRL HAS HER TREASURE! AND WITH THE REDUCER AND ENLARGER COMPOUNDS WE CAN NOW EXPLORE AND ESTABLISH A TRADE WITH THE PEOPLE OF THE ATOMIC WORLDS!

YOU'VE OPENED UP A

WHOLE NEW UNIVERSE, TOMMY TOMORROW!



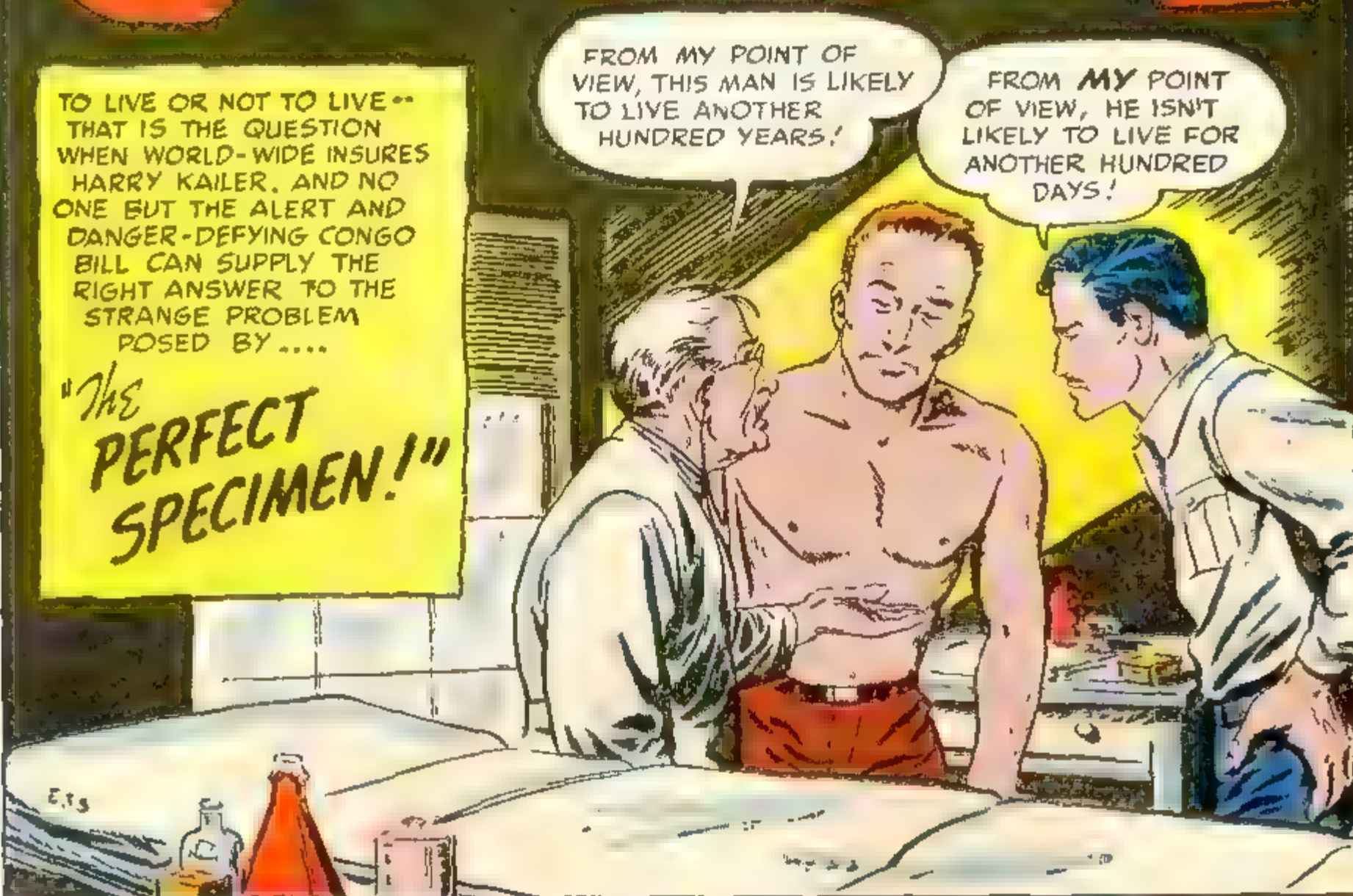
CONGO BILL

TO LIVE OR NOT TO LIVE--
THAT IS THE QUESTION
WHEN WORLD-WIDE INSURES
HARRY KAILER. AND NO
ONE BUT THE ALERT AND
DANGER-DEFYING CONGO
BILL CAN SUPPLY THE
RIGHT ANSWER TO THE
STRANGE PROBLEM
POSED BY

*"The
PERFECT
SPECIMEN!"*

FROM MY POINT OF
VIEW, THIS MAN IS LIKELY
TO LIVE ANOTHER
HUNDRED YEARS!

FROM **MY** POINT
OF VIEW, HE ISN'T
LIKELY TO LIVE FOR
ANOTHER HUNDRED
DAYS!

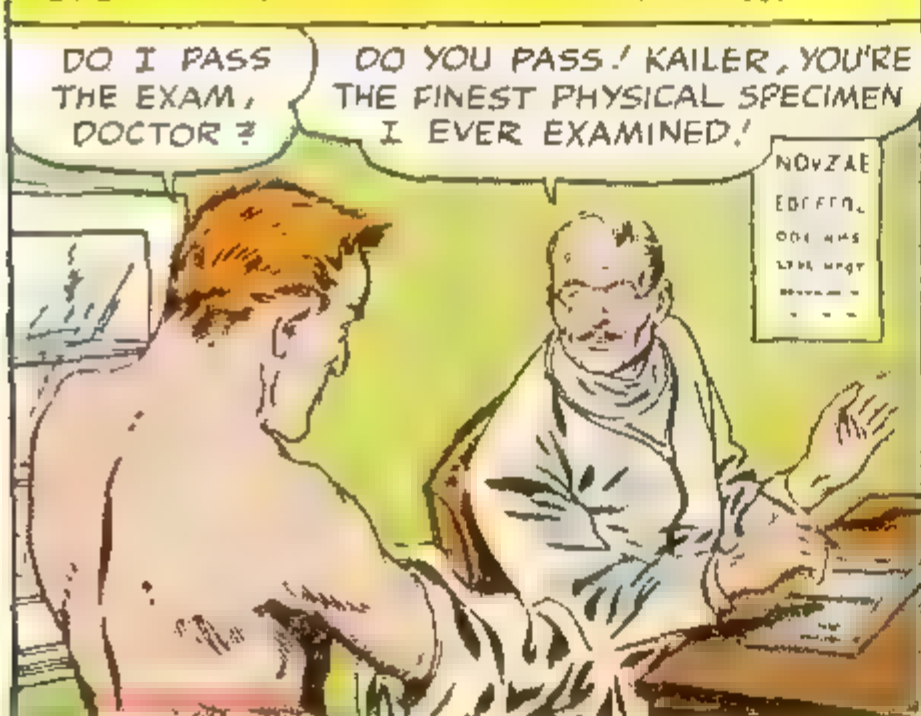


AS DR. HORACE JACKSON COMPLETES HIS
EXAMINATION OF A LIFE-INSURANCE CLIENT FOR
WORLD-WIDE INSURANCE IN HONG KONG...

DO I PASS
THE EXAM,
DOCTOR?

DO YOU PASS! KAILER, YOU'RE
THE FINEST PHYSICAL SPECIMEN
I EVER EXAMINED!

NOVZAE
EDIFFOL
ODE HAS
LIVE MPT
BETWEEN

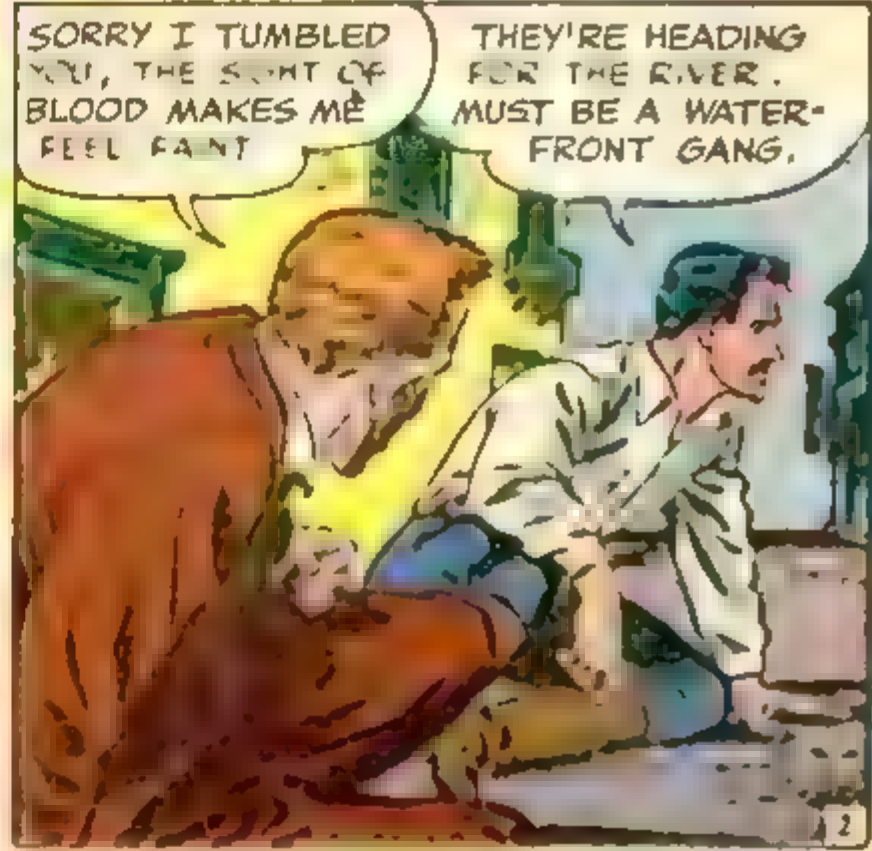
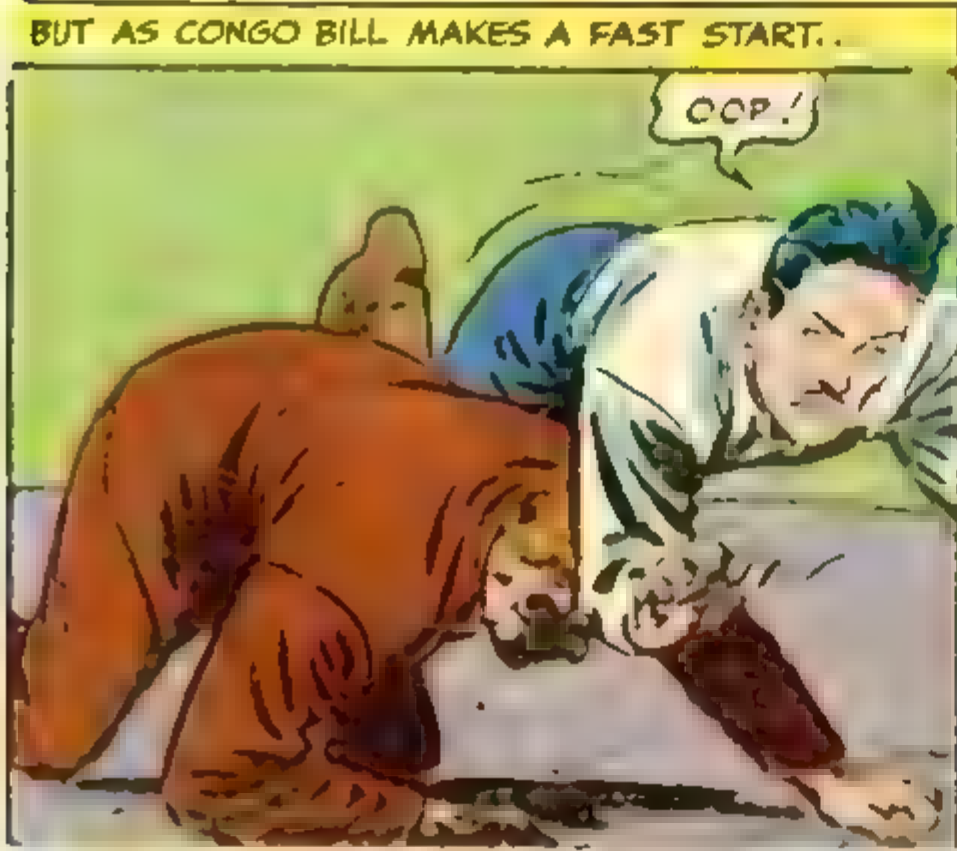
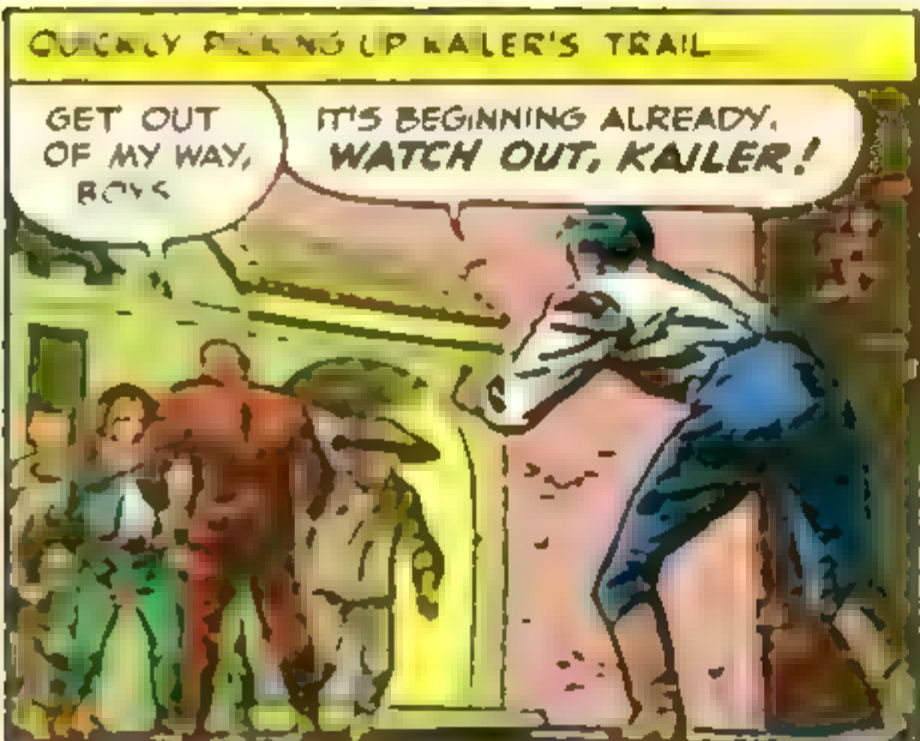


WHICH MAKES HALPIN WHO SOLD THE POLICY
VERY HAPPY... UNTIL HE SEES CONGO BILL.

CONGO BILL! YOU'RE IN
TIME TO CELEBRATE. I
JUST SOLD A HUNDRED
THOUSAND DOLLAR POLICY
TO THAT MAN! DR. JACKSON
SAYS HE'LL LIVE TO BE A
HUNDRED!

HE'LL BE LUCKY IF
HE LIVES A
HUNDRED DAYS!
THAT'S HARRY
KAILER, THE ONLY
WITNESS TO THE
BASCOM MURDER!
HELLO AND
GOODBYE. I'VE
GOT TO KEEP AN
EYE ON HIM!





IM CONGO BILL OF
WORLD-WIDE ASSURANCE!
I'M INTERESTED IN THE
BASCOM MURDER! DID
YOU RECOGNIZE ANY
OF YOUR ATTACKERS?

RED TURBAN
IS THE ONE
WHO
MURDERED
BASCOM!

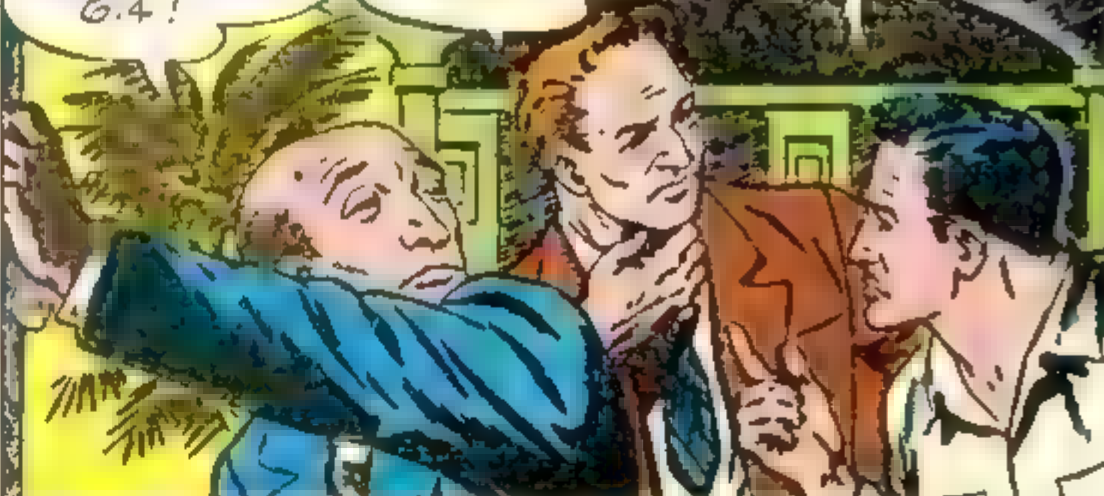


CONGO BILL ACCOMPANIES KAILER TO HIS HOTEL, WHICH WAS
ALSO THE SCENE OF THE BASCOM MURDER...

VERY WELL, SR!
IF YOU INSIST
I'LL GIVE YOU
CAPTAIN BASCOM'S
ROOM! ROOM
G.4!

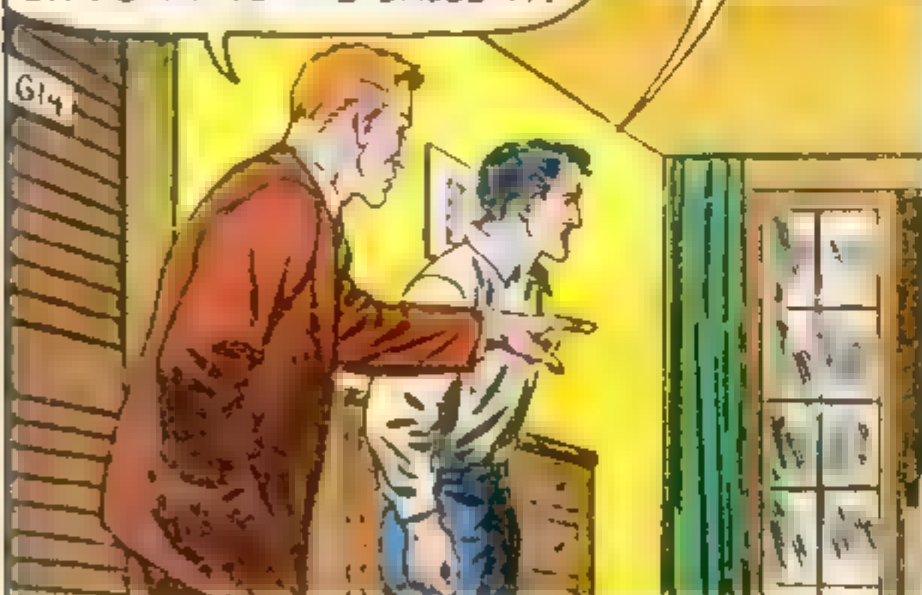
YOU'RE CRAZY,
CONGO BILL!
WHY DO YOU
WANT BASCOM'S
ROOM?

I WANT YOU TO HELP
ME RECONSTRUCT THE
CRIME THERE,
KAILER!



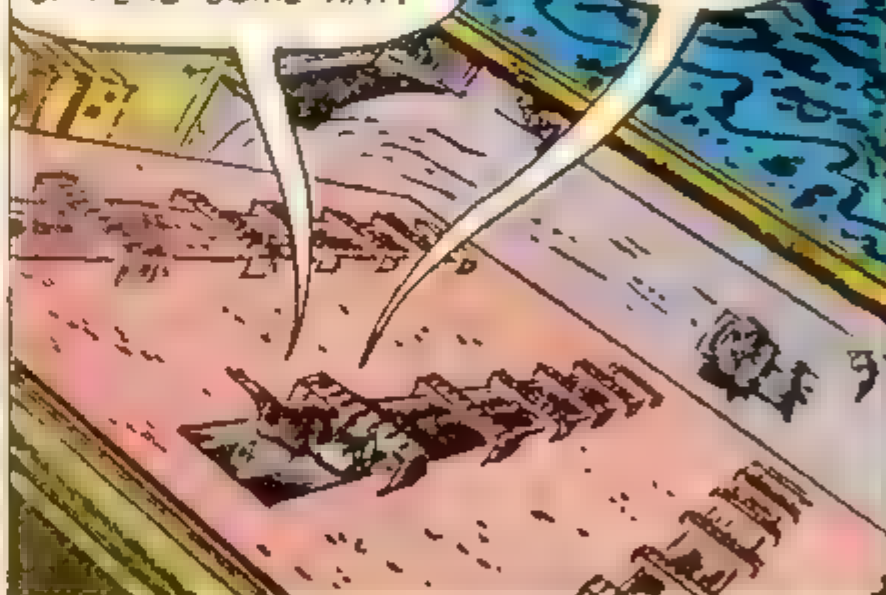
BASCOM WAS FOUND STRANGLER
IN A HEAP ON THE BALCONY. HIS
DOOR WAS LOCKED AND THE
ONLY KEY WAS IN HIS POCKET!
THERE'S NO WAY TO CLIMB UP
OR DOWN TO THE BALCONY!

WE'RE SIX
FLOORS UP...
ABOUT SIXTY
FEET OFF THE
GROUND!



THAT'S MY BALCONY! ABOUT
TWENTY FEET AWAY! MUCH
TOO FAR FOR A MAN OF
MY SIZE AND CLUMPSINESS!
YET RED TURBAN GOT
UP HERE SOME WAY!

ABOUT THE
ONLY WAY HE
COULD MAKE
IT IS ON THE
FLY!



EARLY THAT EVENING, CONGO BILL LEAVES THE
HOTEL TO VISIT AN OLD FRIEND!

YHLH SAN. W. SEST
OF ALL LAPDARES,
WHAT CAN YOU
TELL ME ABOUT
THIS PEARL?

IT IS A
SUMATRA PEARL BY THE
TEXTURE! THE SUMATRA
PEARL FIELDS ARE A
GOVERNMENT MONOPOLY!
THEREFORE IT MUST BE
SMUGGLED! THE POLICE
WOULD BE MOST
INTERESTED IN THIS
BEAUTY!

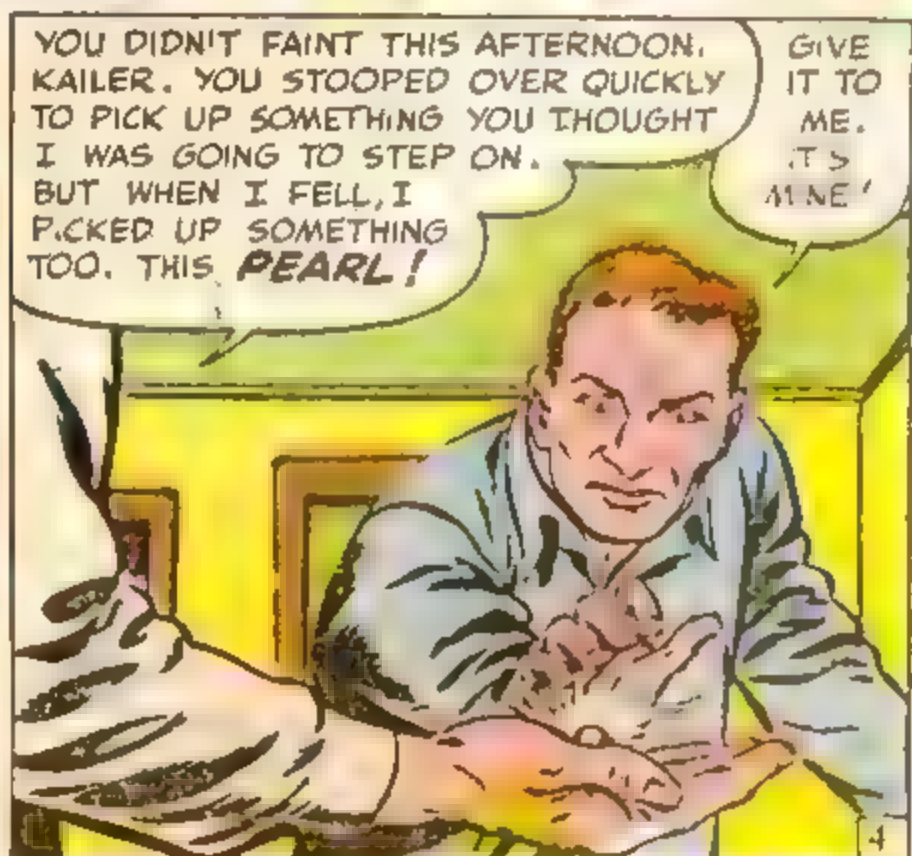
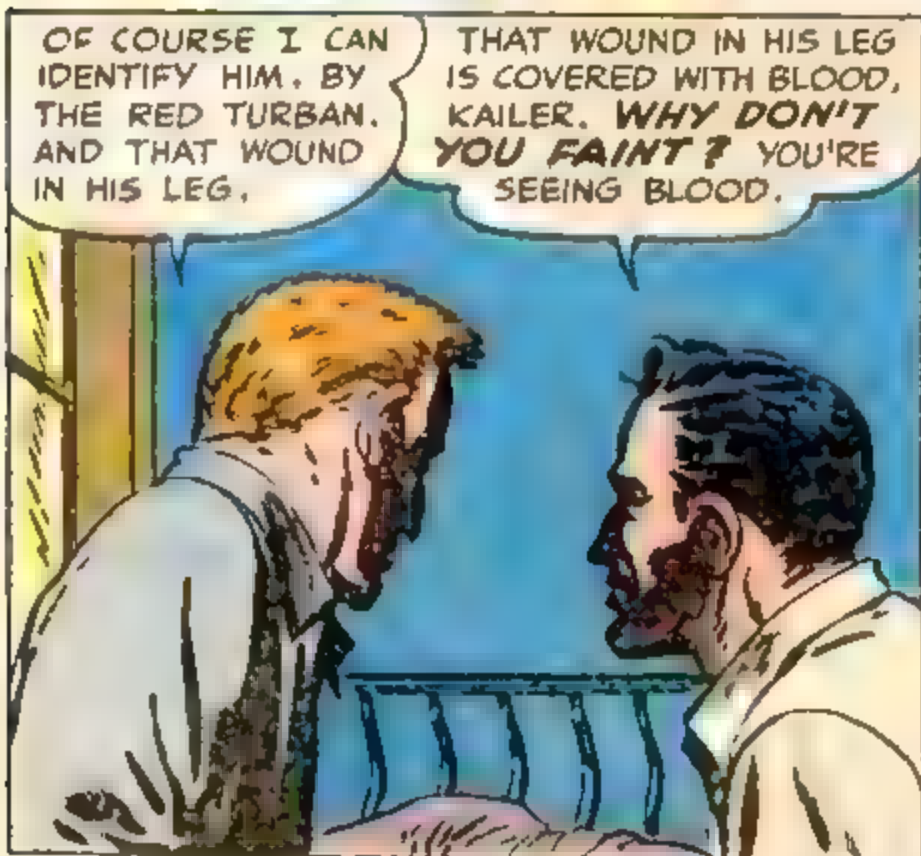
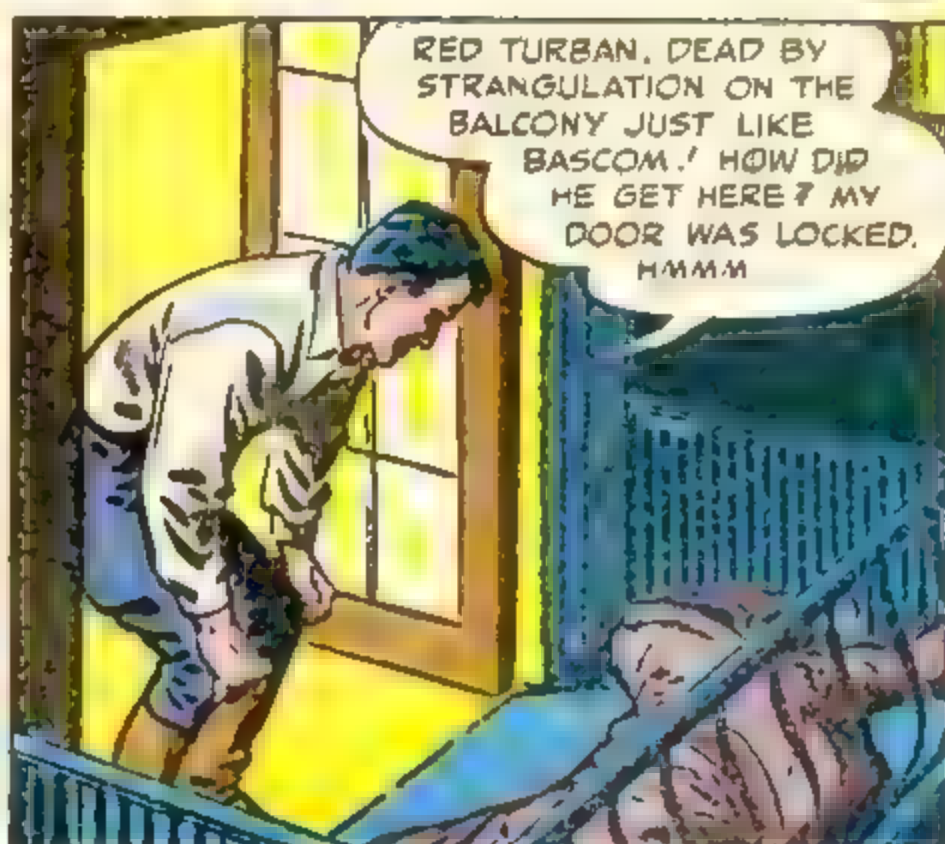
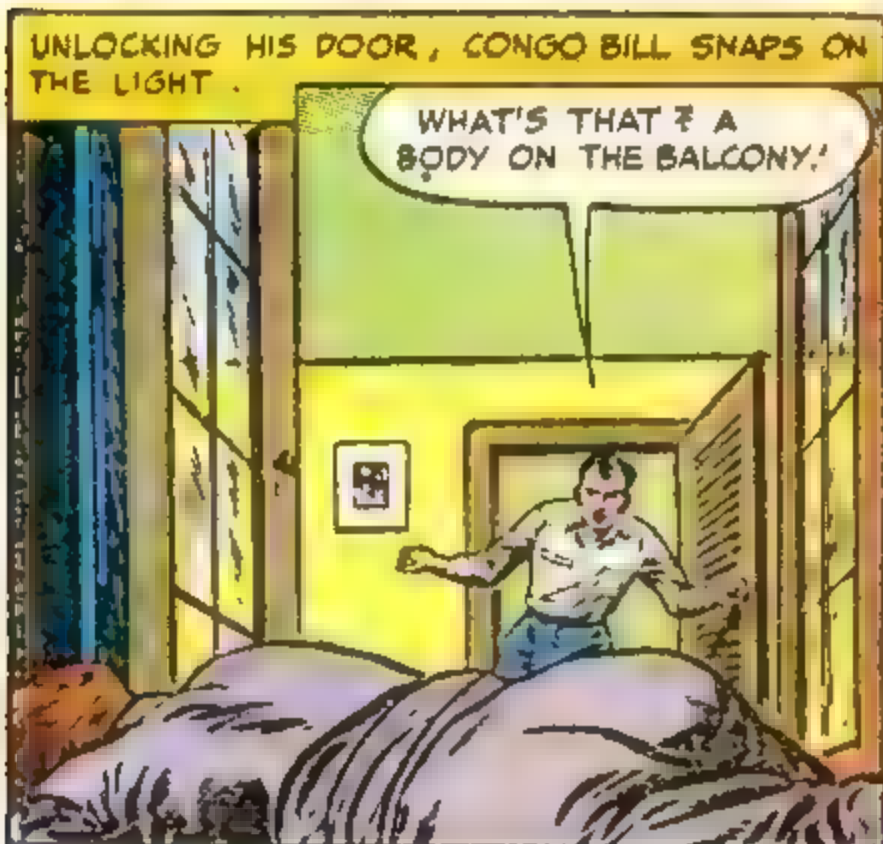


CONGO BILL RETURNS LATE TO THE HOTEL, A
THEORY FORMING IN HIS MIND!

DID BASCOM
COME HERE
BEFORE OR
AFTER MR.
KAILER!

AFTERWARDS!
MR. KAILER IS A FREQUENT
GUEST! CAPTAIN BASCOM WAS
NEVER HERE BEFORE! IF I
MAY SAY SO, SIR, CAPTAIN
BASCOM WAS NOT UNKNOWN
TO THE POLICE!





IS IT YOURS... OR IS IT RED TURBAN'S?

IT'S MINE! I KEEP THEM IN THIS LITTLE BAG AROUND MY NECK! THEY FELL OUT DURING THE ATTACK THIS AFTERNOON, THAT'S WHAT RED TURBAN WAS AFTER!

IF THAT'S WHAT HE WAS AFTER THIS AFTERNOON, IT'S WHAT HE WAS AFTER TONIGHT! I'M SEARCHING YOUR ROOM, KAILER, BECAUSE HE MUST HAVE BEEN THERE!

THEN HOW DID HE GET ON YOUR BALCONY?

CONGO BILL FINDS WHAT HE IS LOOKING FOR ON KAILER'S BALCONY...

BLOOD ON THE FLOOR AND ON THE RAILING! RED TURBAN WAS ALIVE ON THIS BALCONY WITHIN THE LAST HOUR!

NOW THAT YOU KNOW THAT, WHAT ELSE DO YOU KNOW?

IT TELLS ME THIS, KAILER— YOU HAVE A FORTUNE IN SMUGGLED PEARLS AROUND YOUR NECK! BASCOM FOUND OUT ABOUT THEM, SO WHEN HE TRIED TO STEAL THEM, YOU KILLED HIM! WHEN RED TURBAN TRIED TO STEAL THEM, YOU KILLED HIM! YOU DIDN'T DARE TELL THE POLICE ABOUT THE PEARLS!

YOU'RE CRAZY! HOW COULD THEIR BODIES HAVE GOT ON THE OTHER BALCONY?

FIRST YOU STRANGLED THEM, THEN YOU LIFTED THEM UP OVER YOUR HEAD! I KNOW BECAUSE RED TURBAN'S BLOOD IS ON THE RAILING HERE! THEN WITH YOUR ENORMOUS STRENGTH, YOU THREW THEM ACROSS TO THE OTHER BALCONY!

THAT'S RIGHT... JUST THE WAY I'M GOING TO THROW YOU ACROSS!



BUT AS CONGO BILL IS LIFTED OVER KAILER'S HEAD, HE SNATCHES THE BAG OF PEARLS FROM KAILER'S NECK.



I HAVE YOUR PEARLS, KAILER! PUT ME DOWN OR I'LL THROW THEM IN THE RIVER!

IF YOU KILL ME, KAILER, YOU'LL HANG FOR SURE. THIS TIME, THE DOOR TO THE NEXT ROOM ISN'T LOCKED!

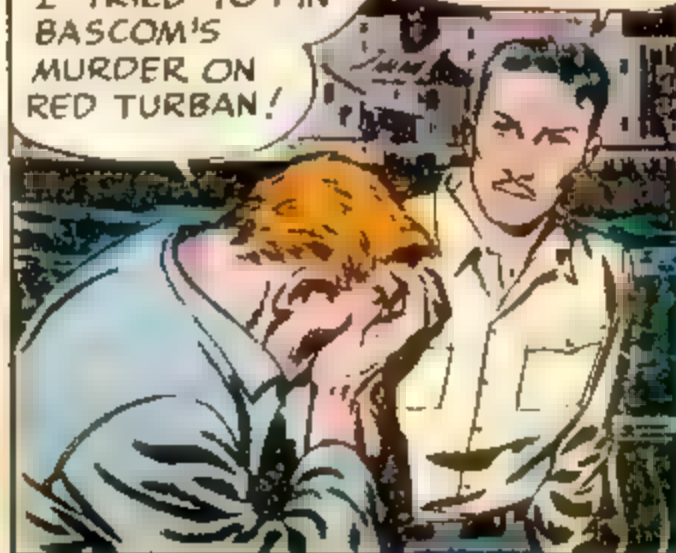


IF YOU DROP THOSE PEARLS, I WILL KILL YOU.

THAT'S STUPID. I'M THE ONLY WITNESS YOU HAVE THAT RED TURBAN TRIED TO KILL YOU THIS AFTERNOON. I'M THE ONLY MAN WHO CAN HELP YOU PLEAD SELF-DEFENSE!



BASCOM TRIED TO KNIFE ME IN THE HALL. SO DID RED TURBAN. HE WAS ONE OF BASCOM'S GANG. I TRIED TO PIN BASCOM'S MURDER ON RED TURBAN!



WELL, WHAT'LL IT BE? FIVE YEARS FOR MANSLAUGHTER OR HANGING FOR MURDER?

SO KAILER SURRENDERS.

I WISH TO SURRENDER VOLUNTARILY IN THE KILLING OF CAPTAIN BASCOM AND A MEMBER OF HIS GANG.

I WILL APPEAR AS A WITNESS.



SUPERMEN OF AMERICA

SUPERMAN'S SECRET MESSAGE

(Code Jupiter No. 4)

XLMW WIEWSR SJ CIEV
AI GIPIFVEXI XAS JEQSYW
FMVXLHECW: AEWLMRKX-
SR'W ERH PMRGSPR'W.

SUPERMAN,

c/o ACTION COMICS

480 LEXINGTON AVENUE, N. Y. C. 17, N. Y.

APR

Dear Superman:

Please enroll me as a Member of the SUPERMEN of AMERICA. I enclose 10c to cover cost of mailing. It is understood that I am to receive my Membership Certificate, Emblem and Superman Code.

NAME..... AGE.....

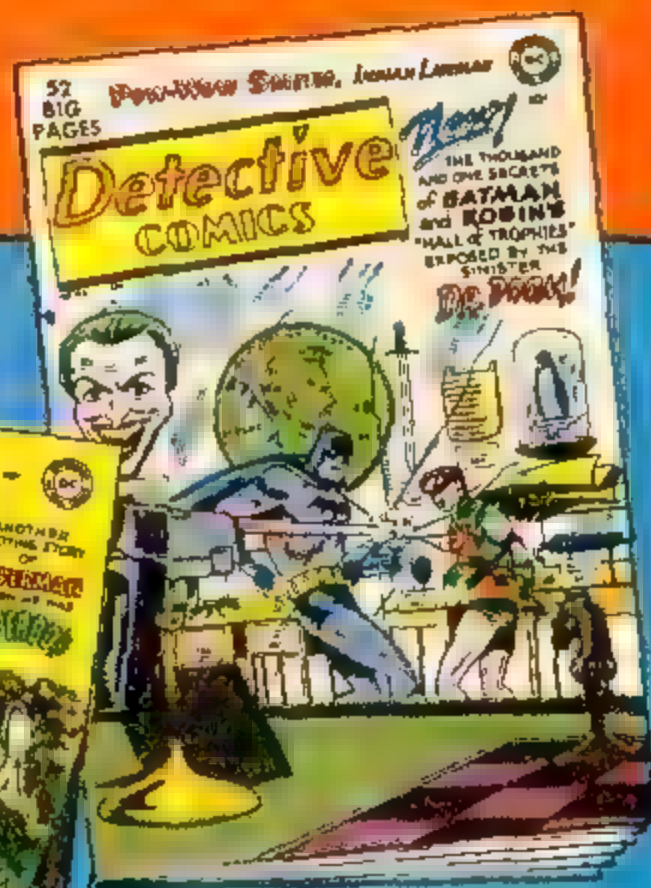
STREET ADDRESS.....

CITY..... ZONE..... STATE.....



YOU DON'T HAVE TO WAIT 2 MONTHS FOR THESE GREAT MAGAZINES!

YOU KNOW, MOST COMICS MAGAZINES
ARE PUBLISHED ONLY EVERY OTHER MONTH,
BUT *THESE* BEST-SELLERS COME OUT
EVERY MONTH - BECAUSE YOU WANT
TO READ THEM *TWELVE* TIMES A
YEAR INSTEAD
OF *SIX*!



But
THE BIG THING
TO REMEMBER IS TO

GET YOUR COPIES EARLY!
(THAT WAY, YOU WON'T MISS A SINGLE ISSUE!)



YANKEE DOODLE DOUGHBOY

WE NEED MEN AND MONEY TO WIN THE WAR OF INDEPENDENCE!

YES, WE MUST WIN! WITHOUT INDEPENDENCE, WE HAVE NOTHING! I CONTRIBUTE \$1000 AND MY SERVICES!

NOT ALLOWED TO ENLIST BECAUSE HIS BAKING WAS ESSENTIAL, ONE MAN SINGLEHANDLEDLY DISRUPTED AN ENTIRE HESSIAN CAMP HERE IS THE STORY OF THAT BAKER, WHO SCORPED BREAD-MAKING TO ACCOMPLISH ONE OF THE MOST DARING FEATS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR!

1776. AND THE BRITISH FORCES HAD SUEVED THE COLONIAL ARMY OUT OF NEW YORK. HORDES OF HESSIANS STREAMED INTO THE HARBOR!

I AM DELIVERING 250 SOLDIERS. NOW, AT TWO POUNDS EACH, YOU OWE ME...

JUST A MOMENT! YOUR HESSE FARMERS ARE WORTH LESS TO US UNTIL THEY REACH STATEN ISLAND!

MEANWHILE CHRIS LUDWICK, WHO HAD BEEN BORN IN GERMANY, AND NOW LIVED IN PHILADELPHIA, CONFRONTED HIS WIFE WITH A DARING PLAN...

HESSIANS! HUNDREDS OF THEM ARRIVING EVERY WEEK! OUR REVOLUTION IS DOOMED TO FAILURE UNLESS WE CAN STOP THEM AND I CAN!

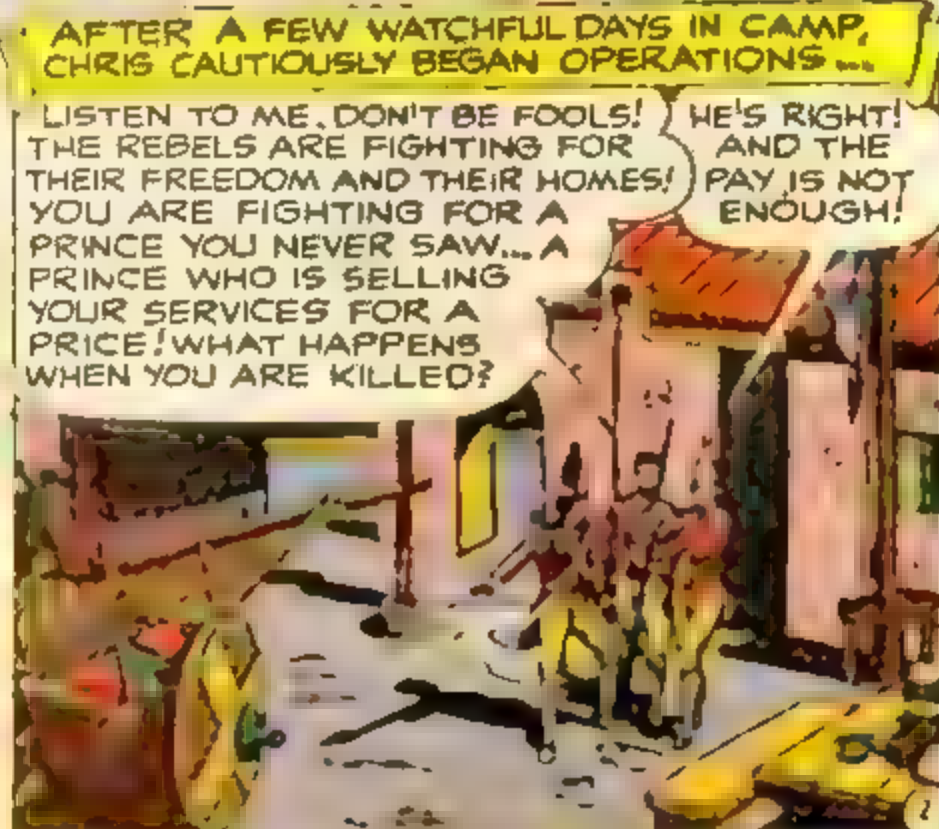
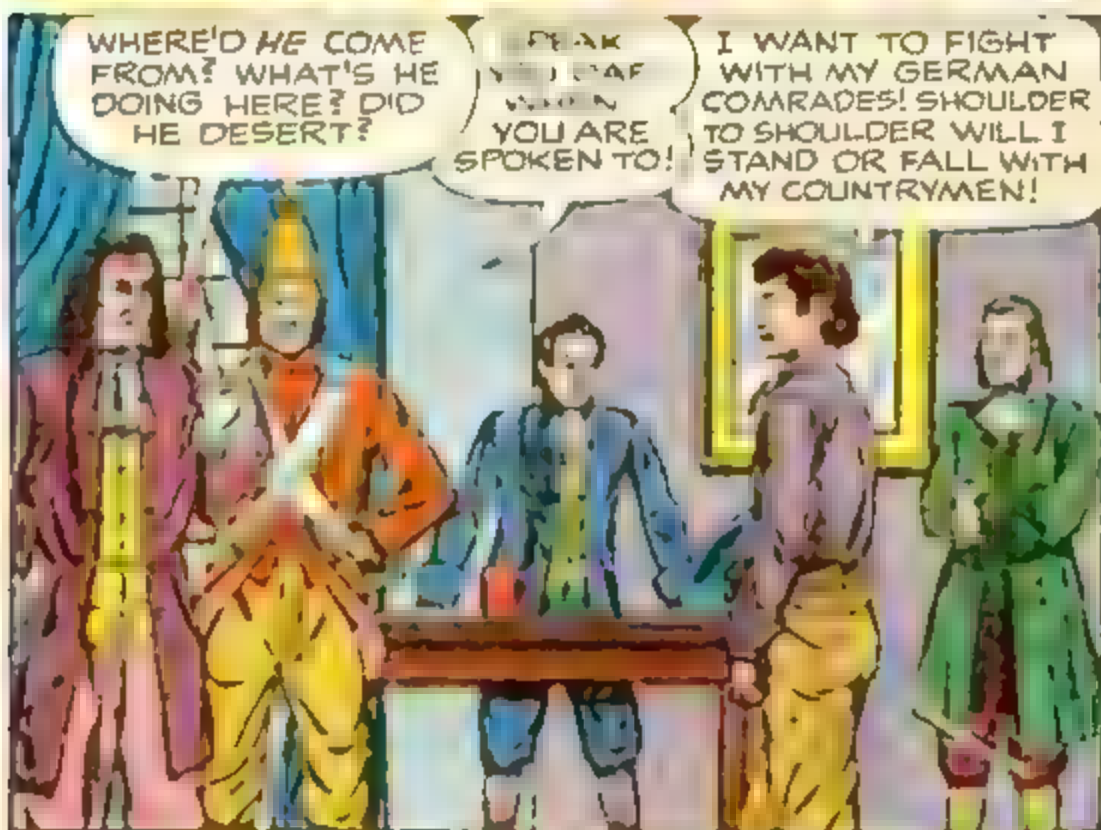
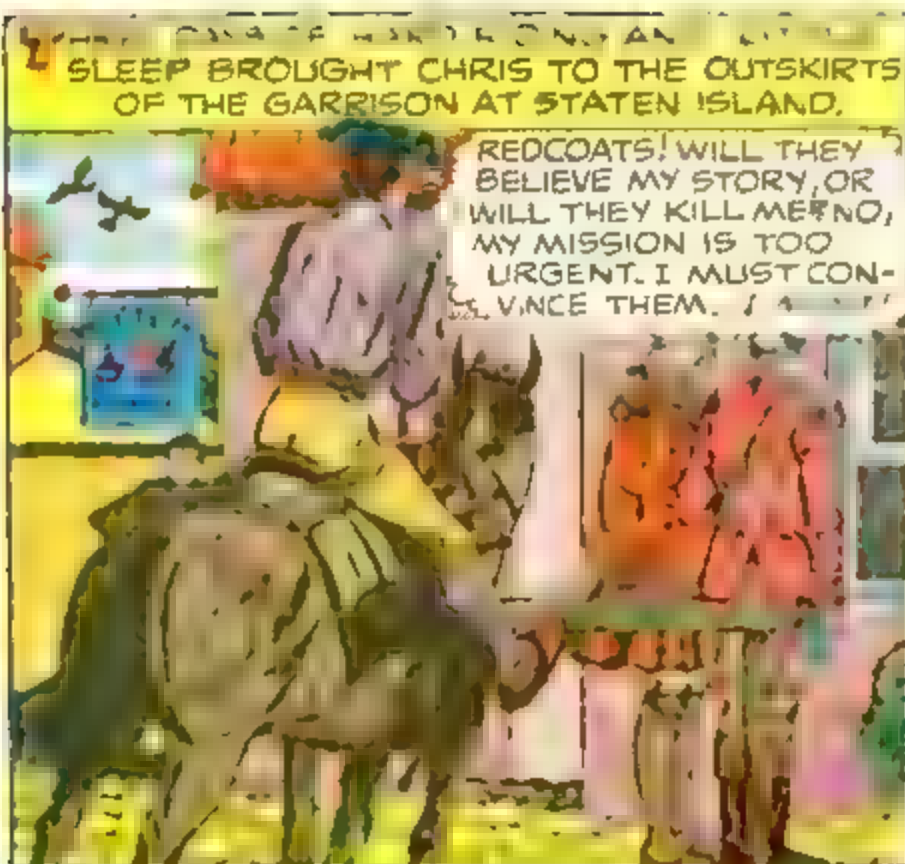
YOUR IDEA IS MAD, CHRIS! STAY HOME AND BAKE. YOU ARE FIGHTING THE WAR, TOO... BAKING THE BREAD TO FEED THE SOLDIERS! BREAD IS IMPORTANT! IT IS YOUR WEAPON!

BUT I CAN DO BETTER! A MAN DOES HIS DUTY AS HE SEES IT! NO MATTER HOW YOU TRY TO DISSUADE ME, I LEAVE TOMORROW!

DAWN NEXT DAY FOUND HIM POISED FOR THE GREATEST ADVENTURE OF HIS LIFE.

BE CAREFUL, CHRIS! SINCE YOU ARE DISGUISED AS A COLONIAL DESERTER, THE AMERICANS MIGHT SHOOT YOU IF THE BRITISH DON'T!

THAT RISK I MUST TAKE TO REACH THE HESSIAN CAMP. FAREWELL!





THUS IN THE NIGHTS TO COME, HESSIAN SOLDIERS SLIPPED OUT OF CAMP, BOUND FOR THE PENNSYLVANIA FIELDS!

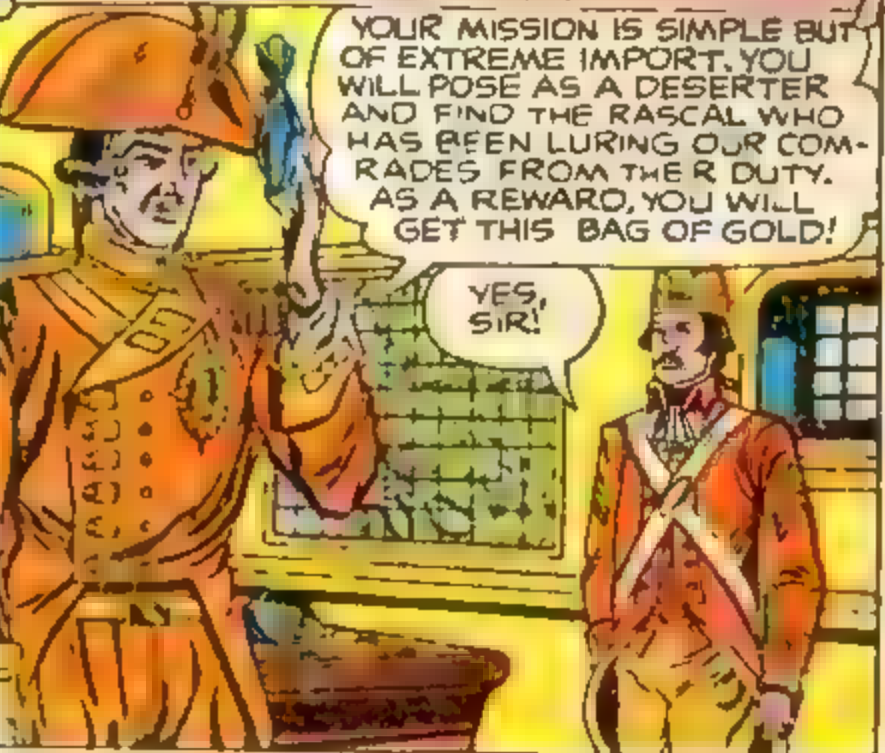


AND AT HEADQUARTERS, THE SUCCESS OF CHRIS' SCHEME ENRAGED THE BRITISH...

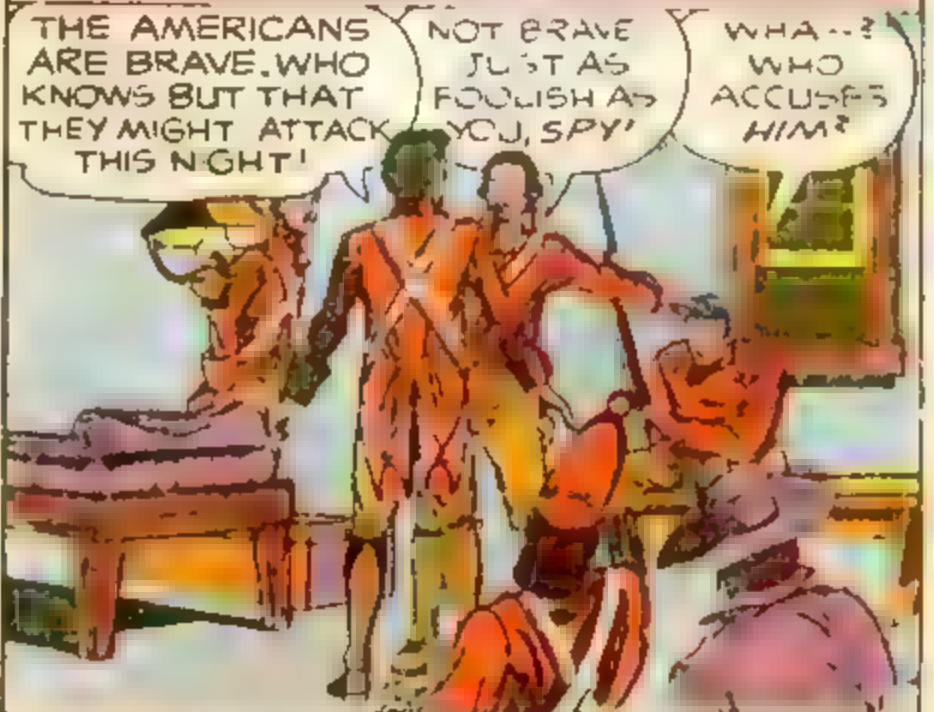
THESE DESERTIONS MUST STOP! MORE THAN 200 OF YOUR HESSIANS HAVE DISAPPEARED, AND YOU WERE PAID FOR THEM!



NEXT DAY, THE CRAFTY HESSIAN OFFICER SET THE TRAP...



HAVING EXPRESSED A SECRET DESIRE TO DESERT, THAT NIGHT, THE SERGEANT WAS STEERED TO CHRIS...





VIGILANTE

WHAT WOULD YOU THINK IF YOU SUDDENLY HEARD THE CREAK OF COVERED WAGONS AND THE BRAY OF HARNESSSED MULES? IF YOU SAW GOLD DUST SHIPPED IN ANCIENT WELLS FARGO EXPRESS BOXES AND PURE YELLOW GOLD SIFTED FROM SPARKLING MOUNTAIN STREAMS? NO WONDER LUKE MARTIN, IN SEARCH OF HIS FATHER THINKS HE'S DREAMING—EVEN WHEN THE VIGILANTE, IN SEARCH OF MASKED BANDITS TERRORIZING OLD TRAILS, JOINS HIM IN RE-LIVING...

"The DAYS of '49!"



YOUNG LUKE MARTY IS ON HIS WAY TO NUGGET, HOPING TO FIND THE FATHER HE DOES NOT REMEMBER, WHEN THE DESERT HEAT KICKS OFF HIS AUTOMOBILE...

CAN YOU BEAT THAT? CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF A GHOST TOWN, WITH AN OVERHEATED, OVERWORKED, OVER-EVERYTHING CAR! BAH!



GUESS THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO BUT SLEEP HERE FOR THE NIGHT! MAYBE IN THE MORNING I CAN FIX WHATEVER'S WRONG WITH THE OLD LIZZIE!



AS LUKE MARTY SLEEPS, FAR OUT ON THE DESERT, OLD BANJOS BEGIN STRUMMING, WAGONWHEELS CREAK AND TRAILS JANGLE

OH SUSANNA, WHY DON'T YOU CRY FOR ME...



CAN LUKE MARTY BE DREAMING OF THE DAYS OF 49, 1849?

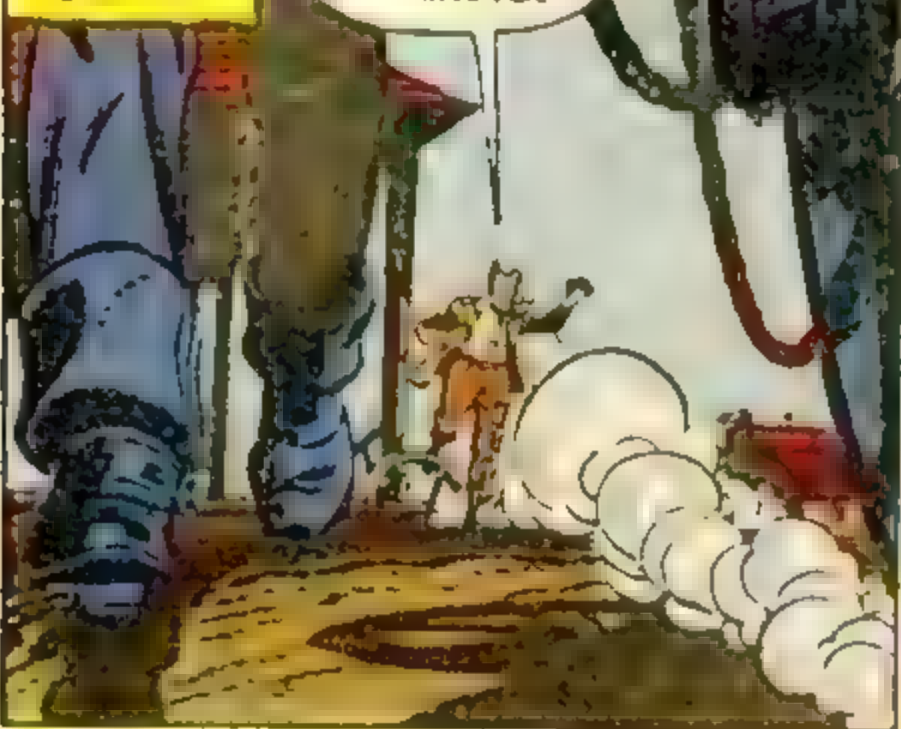
HOW YOU RECKON IT, JEPH? THINK WE'LL MAKE NUGGET BY TOMORROW?

KEEP THESE WAGONS ROLLIN' AT THIS PACE, AN WE WILL!



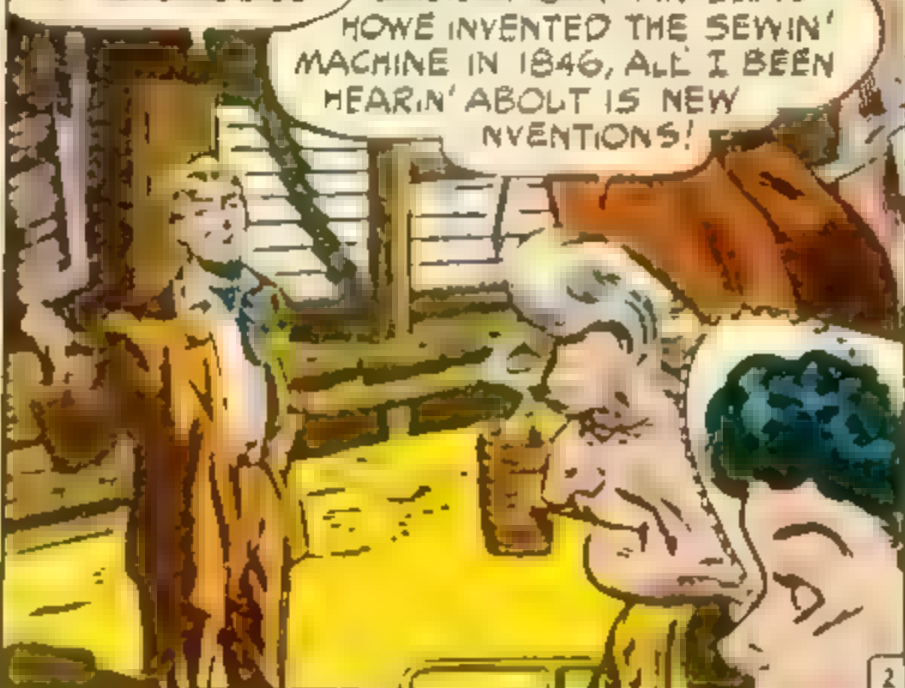
BUT IT'S NO DREAM! NEXT MORNING

HEY!... HEY, WHO... SAY, WAIT A MINUTE!



I SURE AM IN LUCK! WILL YOU HELP ME WITH MY AUTOMOBILE?

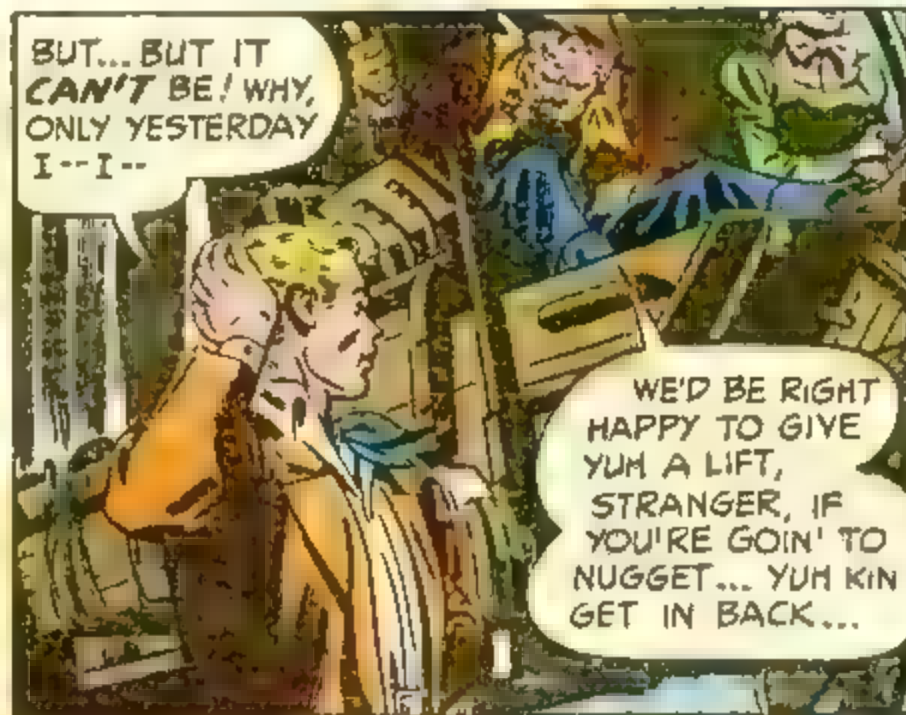
AUTOMOBILE? WHAT'S THAT? DOGGONE, EVER SINCE MORSE INVENTED THE TELEGRAPH BACK IN 344 AN' ELIAS HOWE INVENTED THE SEWING MACHINE IN 1846, ALL I BEEN HEARIN' ABOUT IS NEW INVENTIONS!





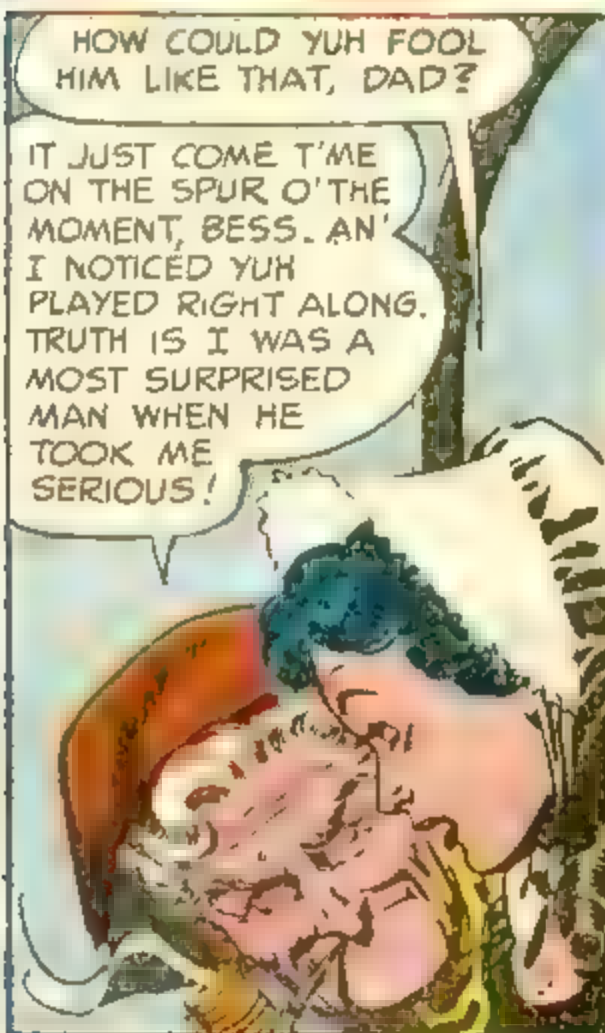
SAY... ARE YOU KIDDING ME? WHA - WHAT YEAR IS THIS?

WHY, IT'S '49 OF COURSE!



BUT... BUT IT CAN'T BE! WHY, ONLY YESTERDAY I--I--

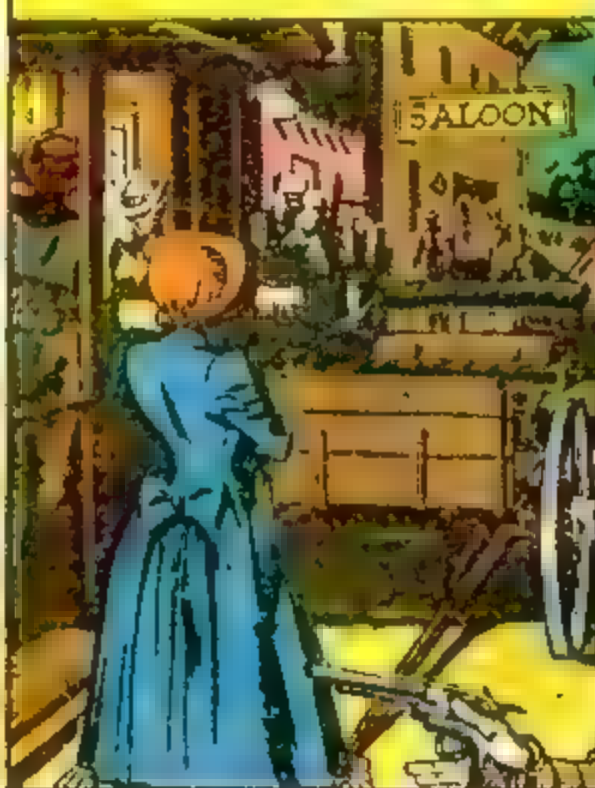
WE'D BE RIGHT HAPPY TO GIVE YUH A LIFT, STRANGER, IF YOU'RE GOIN' TO NUGGET... YUH KIN GET IN BACK...



HOW COULD YUH FOOL HIM LIKE THAT, DAD?

IT JUST CAME T'ME ON THE SPUR O'THE MOMENT, BESS. AN' I NOTICED YUH PLAYED RIGHT ALONG. TRUTH IS I WAS A MOST SURPRISED MAN WHEN HE TOOK ME SERIOUS!

SO IT ISN'T 1849, IT'S REALLY 1950 AFTER ALL! NATURALLY, OR WHAT WOULD GREG SANDERS, THE PRAIRIE TROUBADOUR, AND HIS PAL STUFF BE DOING IN NUGGET?



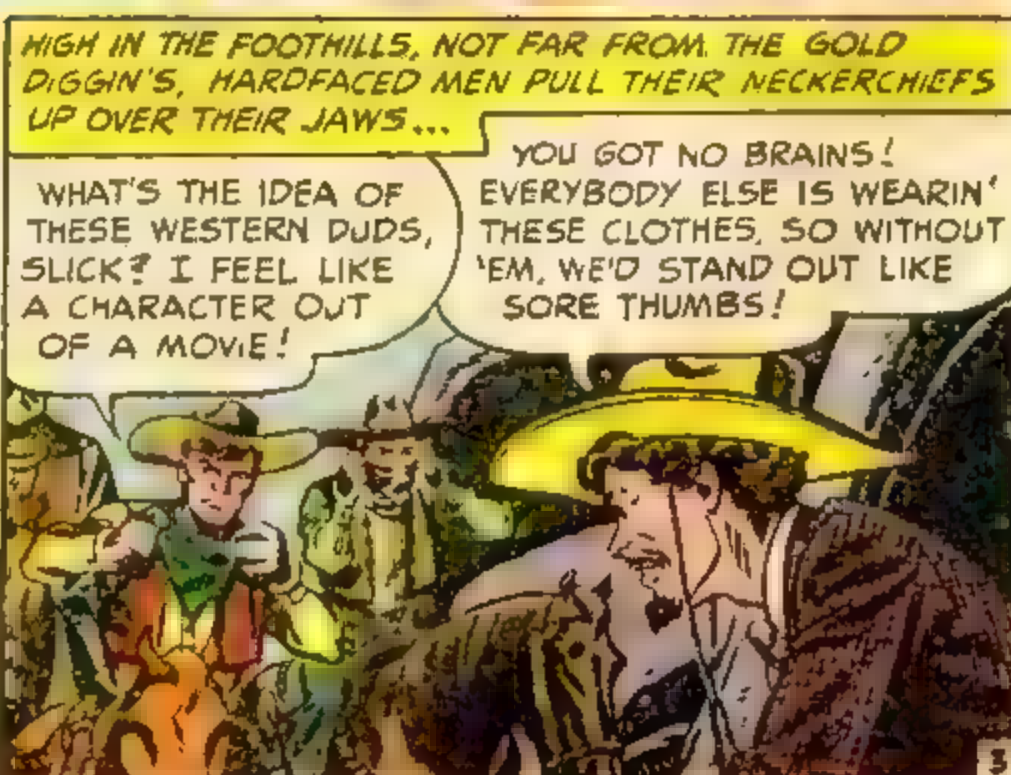
THINGS REALLY LOOK LIKE 1849, GREG! LOOK! EVEN THIS WATER PISTOL RESEMBLES A COLT PEACEMAKER!

I UNDERSTAND THE RICHEST MAN IN THESE PARTS - ORVAL PRENTICE - IS BACKING THE PAGEANT! IT'S PART BUSINESS AND PART SENTIMENT WITH HIM!



WE'RE GOING TO SING AND DANCE AT THE B.G. RALLY AND PICNIC, STUFF, BUT UNTIL THEN WE'RE ON OUR OWN. WHAT SAY WE RIDE OUT TO THE 'DIGGIN'S?

NOW YOU'RE TALKIN'! WHEEEE! GOT THAT BUG FIRST CRACK!



HIGH IN THE FOOTHILLS, NOT FAR FROM THE GOLD DIGGIN'S, HARDFACED MEN PULL THEIR NECKERCHIEFS UP OVER THEIR JAWS...

WHAT'S THE IDEA OF THESE WESTERN DUDS, SLICK? I FEEL LIKE A CHARACTER OUT OF A MOVIE!

YOU GOT NO BRAINS! EVERYBODY ELSE IS WEARIN' THESE CLOTHES, SO WITHOUT 'EM, WE'D STAND OUT LIKE SORE THUMBS!

ORVAL PRENTICE HAS SPENT A FORTUNE ON THIS FACONANT. HIS WELLS FAKED BOXES ARE FILLED WITH REAL CASH! HE'S PLANTED REAL GOLD IN THE DIGGIN'S, AND REAL GOLD DUST AND BARS IN THE FREIGHT MESSENGER CAR ON THE ANNIVERSARY TRAIN--A FORTUNE JUST WAITIN' FER US TO TAKE IT!



ALL THIS TIME I'VE BEEN THINKING THAT HE IS BACK IN THE DAYS OF '49!

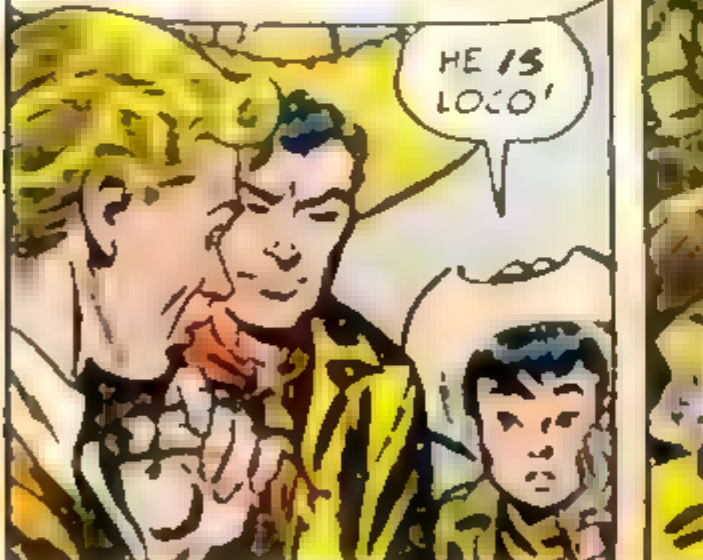
I'VE REALIZED LIKE THIS PEOPLE GOING BACK INTO THE PAST. BUT I NEVER THOUGHT IT WOULD HAPPEN IN REAL LIFE!

SAY GREG IS HE LOCO?



I CAME OUT HERE TO FIND MY FATHER. THIS HALF-RING IS THE ONLY CLUE I HAVE TO HIS IDENTITY! HE HAS THE OTHER HALF! BUT NOW--BACK IN 1849--I'M ABOUT FIFTY YEARS AHEAD OF MYSELF. MY FATHER WAS BORN IN 1899!

HE IS LOCO!



REALIZING THE PRANK THAT IS BEING PLAYED ON THE UNSUSPECTING LUKE, GREG IS ABOUT TO TELL HIM THE TRUTH WHEN...

REACH!

KEEP 'EM HIGH!



UNDER COVER OF THE EXCITEMENT, THE PRAIRIE TROUBADOUR DISAPPEARS--AND IN HIS PLACE THE VIGILANTE SWOOPS DOWN

HUH?

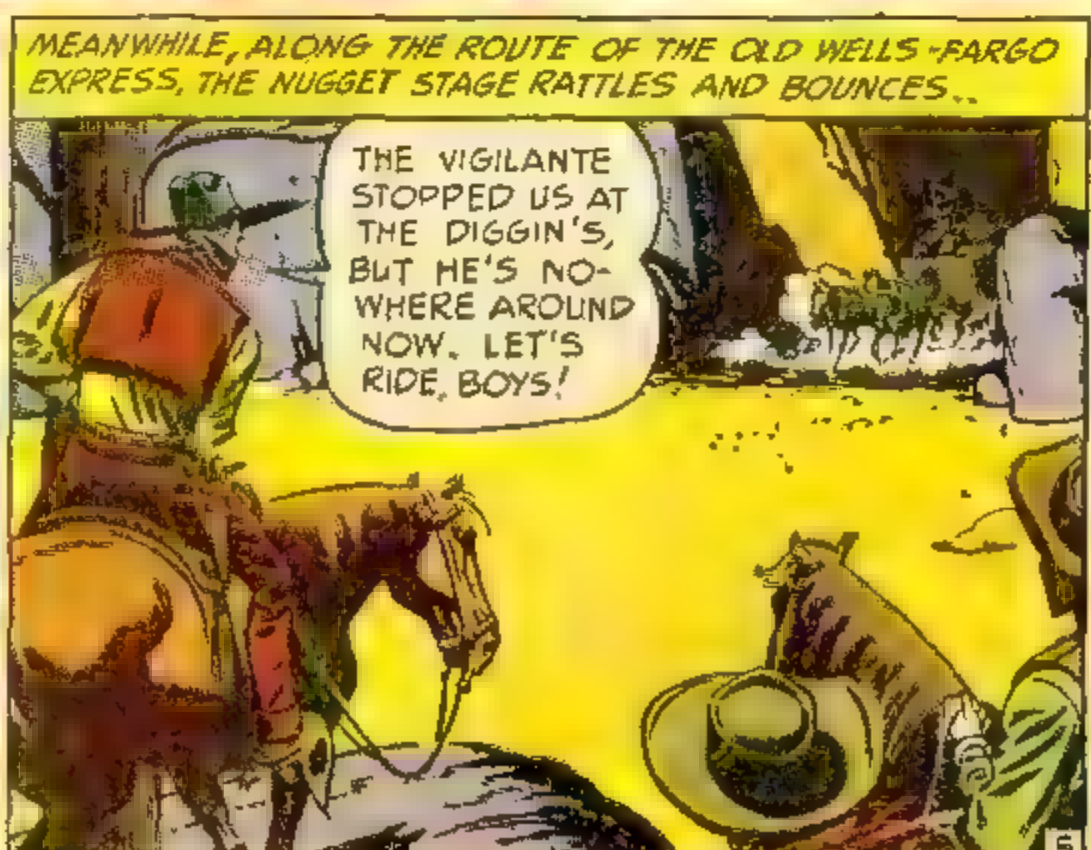
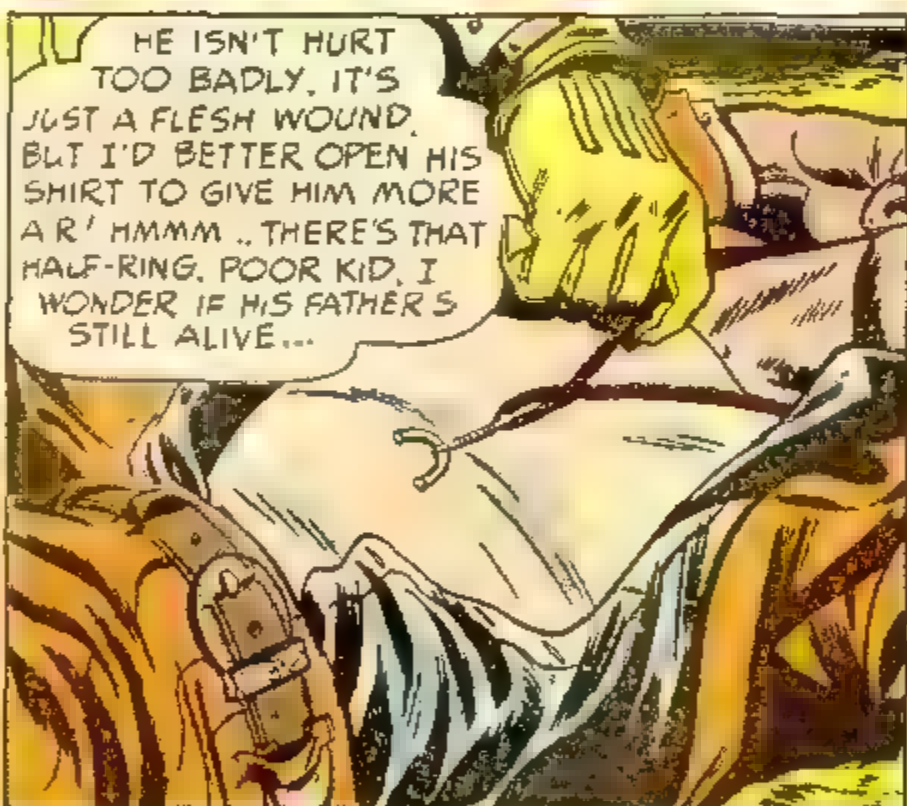
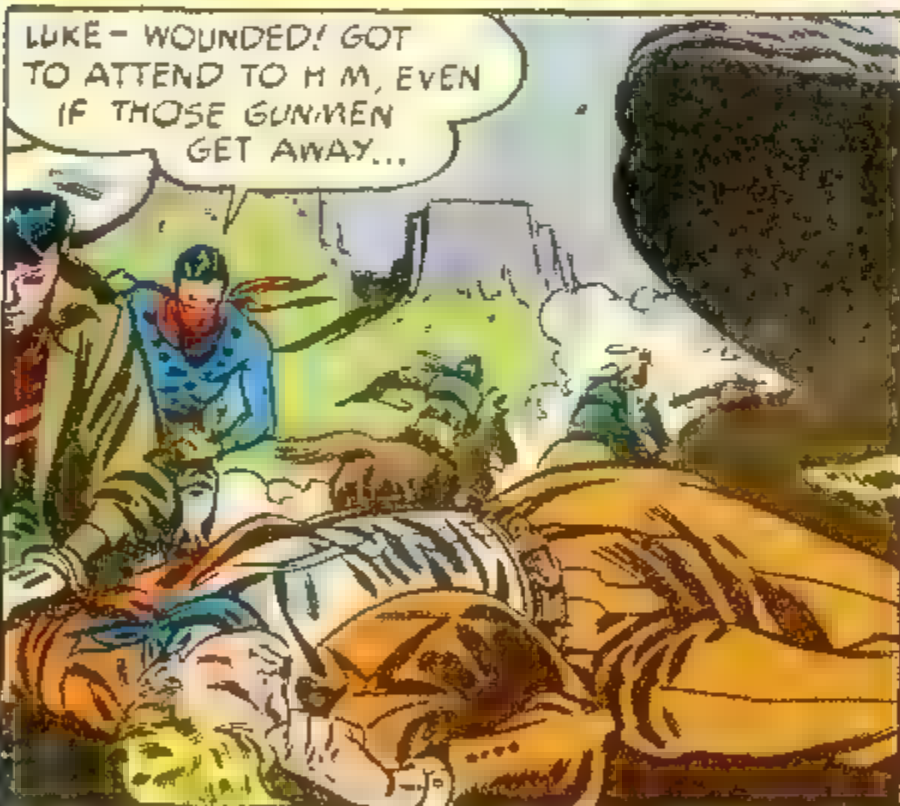
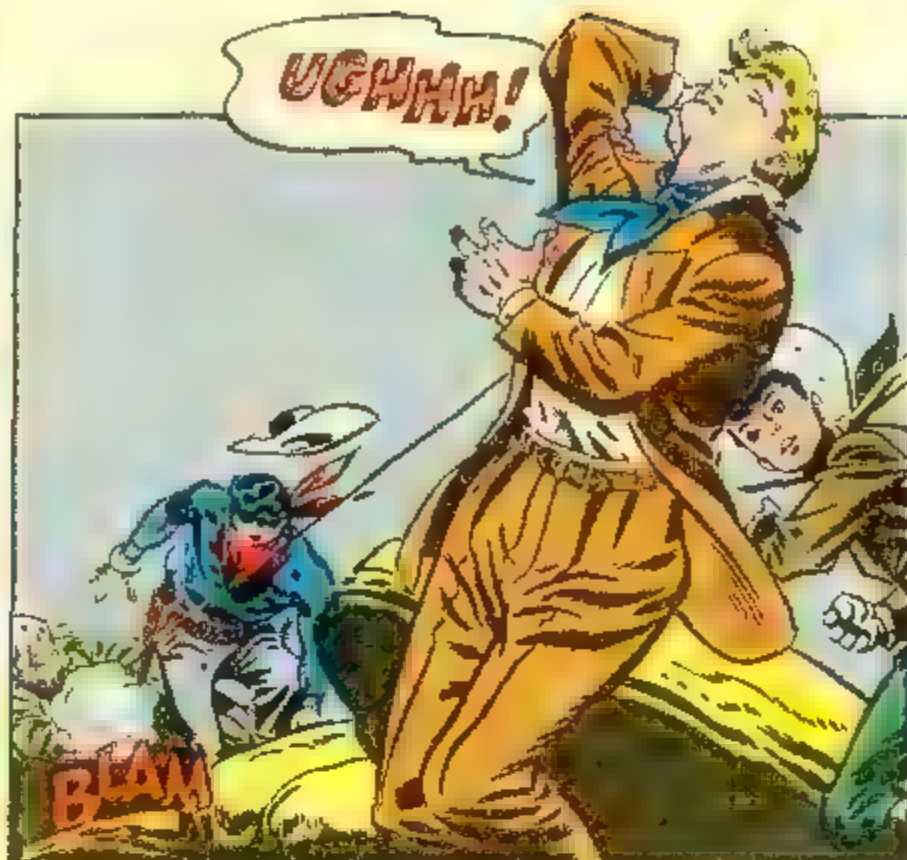
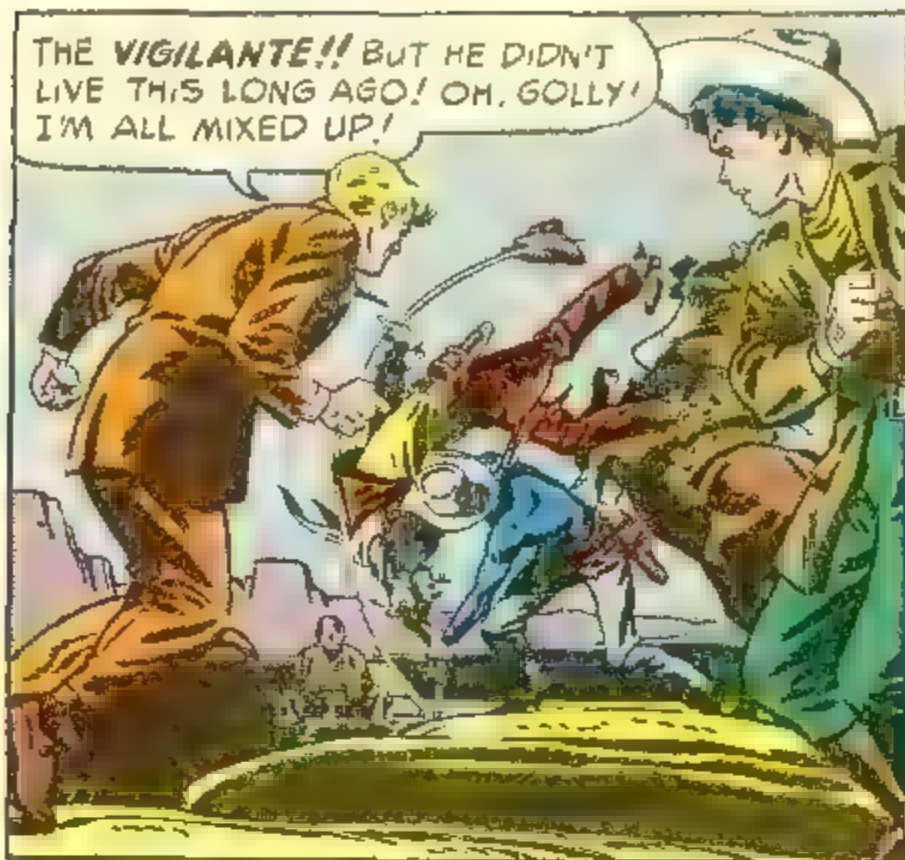
HEY--IT'S THE--THE VIGILANTE!

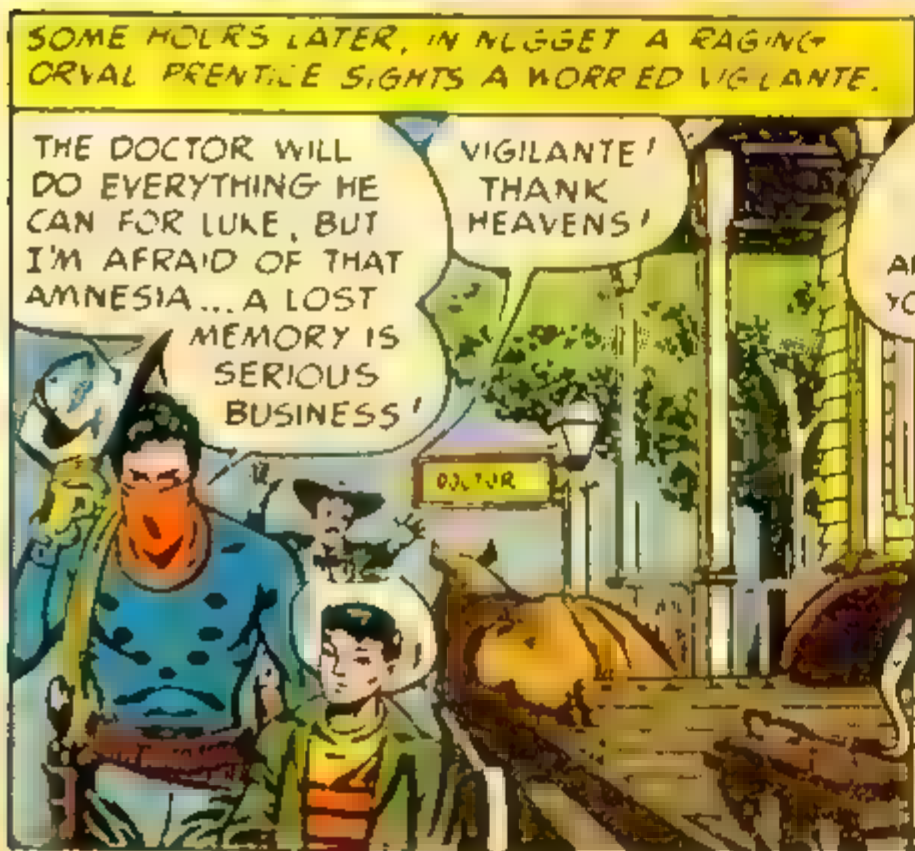


THE OLD VIGILANTES USED GUNS--BUT FISTS WILL SERVE MY PURPOSE!

SPLAATT!







THERE'S A REPLICA OF THE KANSAS-PACIFIC RAILROAD COMING TO TOWN, YOU SAY THOSE MEN MADE A TRY AT THE DIGGIN'S. MAYBE THEY'LL TACKLE THAT RAILROAD NEXT!

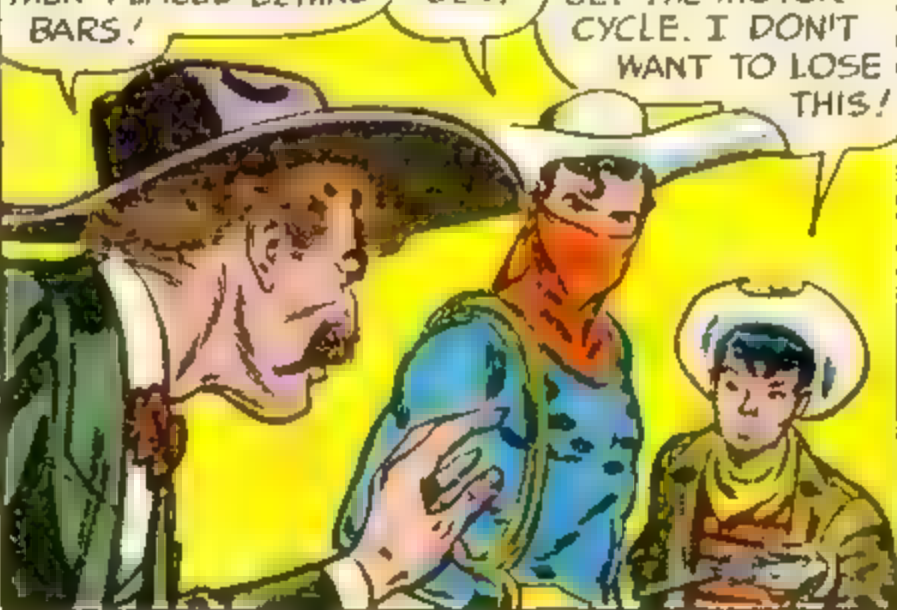
SOUNDS LOGICAL. COME ON, STUFF - LET'S GO!



I HAVE A VERY PERSONAL REASON FOR SEEING THOSE MEN PLACED BEHIND BARS!

WE'LL DO OUR BEST

HERE, VIG! YOU HOLD MY WATER PISTOL WHILE I GET THE MOTOR-CYCLE. I DON'T WANT TO LOSE THIS!



WONDER WHAT THAT PERSONAL REASON WAS, VIG?

I SUPPOSE PRENTICE'S PRIDE WAS HURT - ASIDE FROM THE FACT THAT HE STANDS TO LOSE A FORTUNE BECAUSE OF THOSE BANDITS!



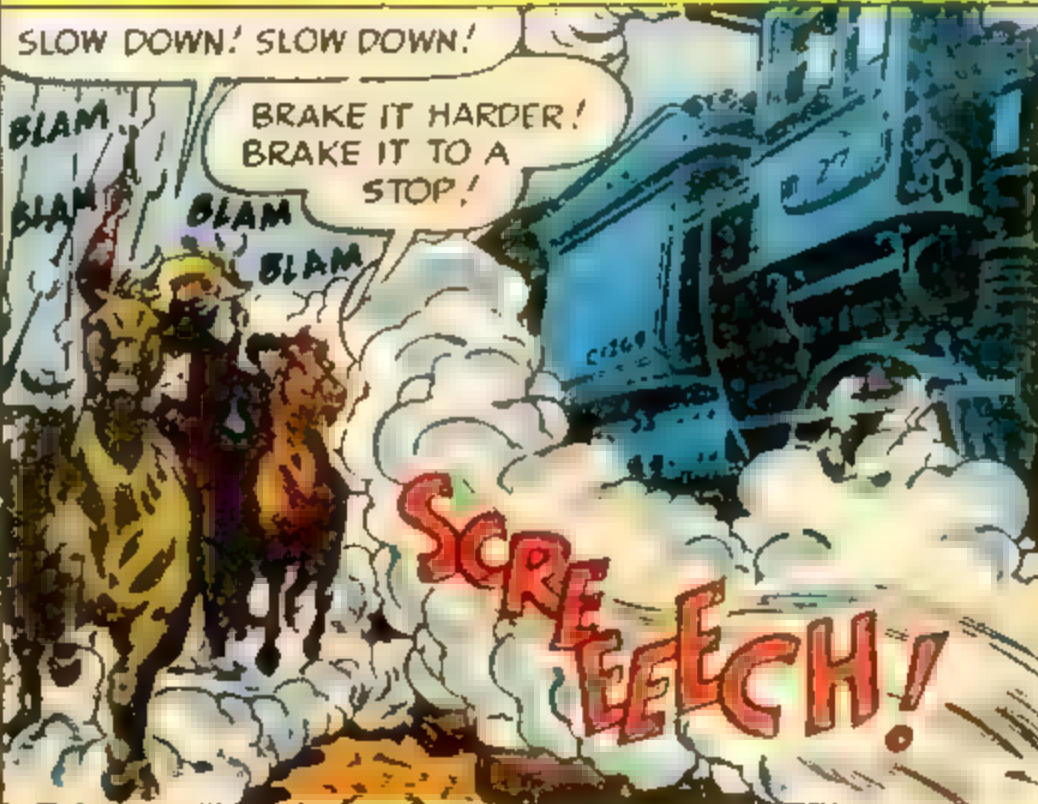
SOME MILES AHEAD OF THE FLYING MOTORCYCLE, SIXGUNS FLAME AMID A RAUCOUS SQUEAL OF RAILROAD BRAKES...

SLOW DOWN! SLOW DOWN!

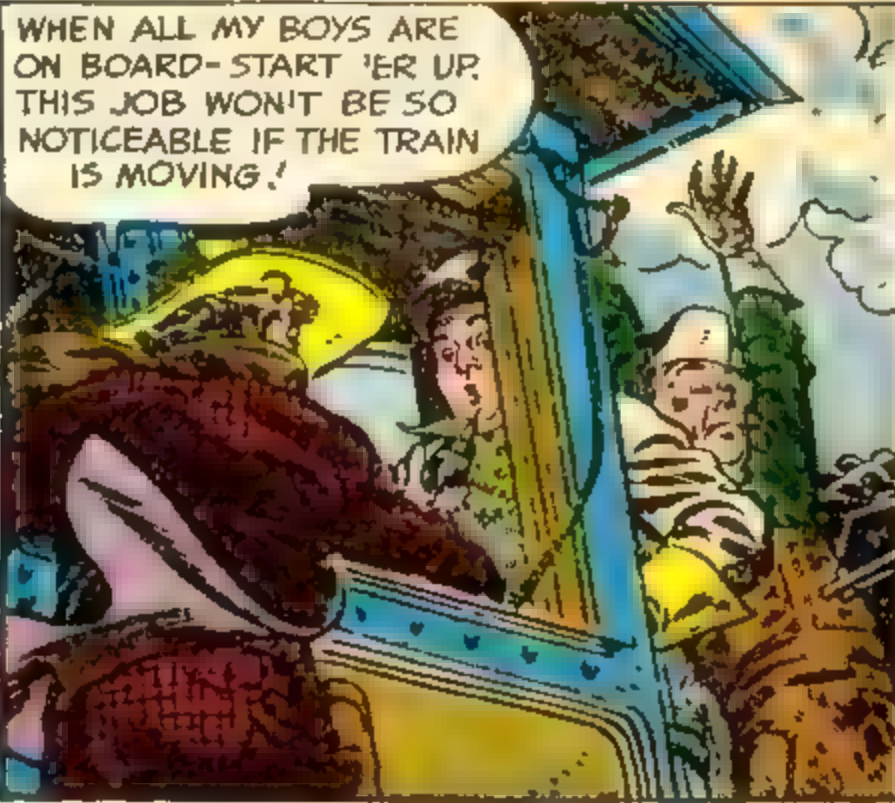
BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!

BRAKE IT HARDER!
BRAKE IT TO A STOP!

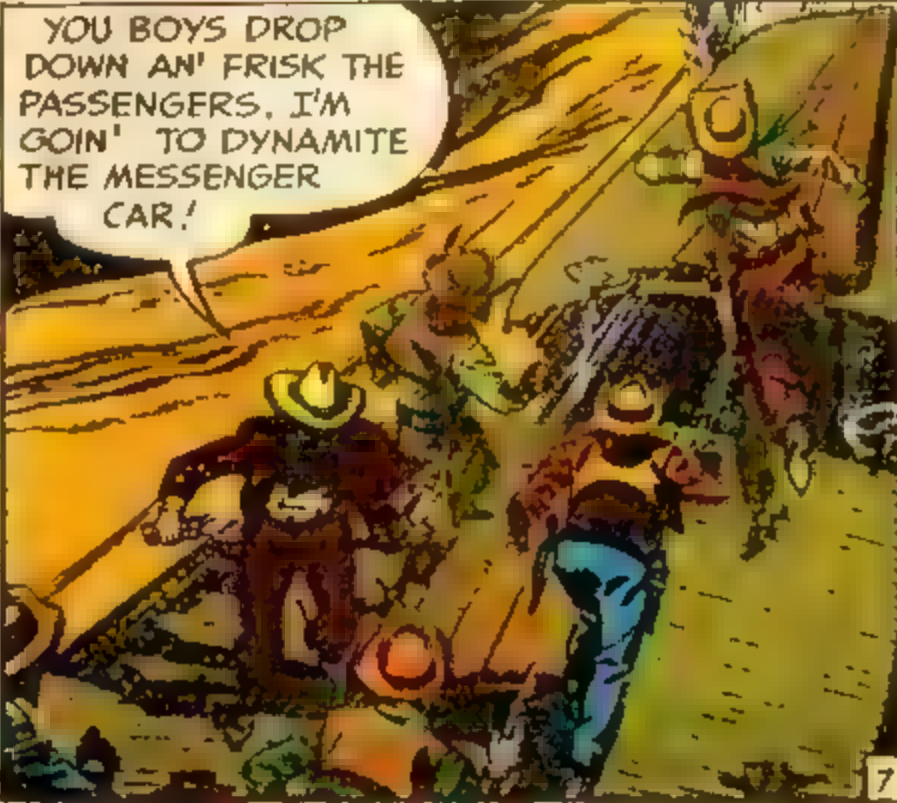
SCREEECH!



WHEN ALL MY BOYS ARE ON BOARD - START 'ER UP. THIS JOB WON'T BE SO NOTICEABLE IF THE TRAIN IS MOVING!

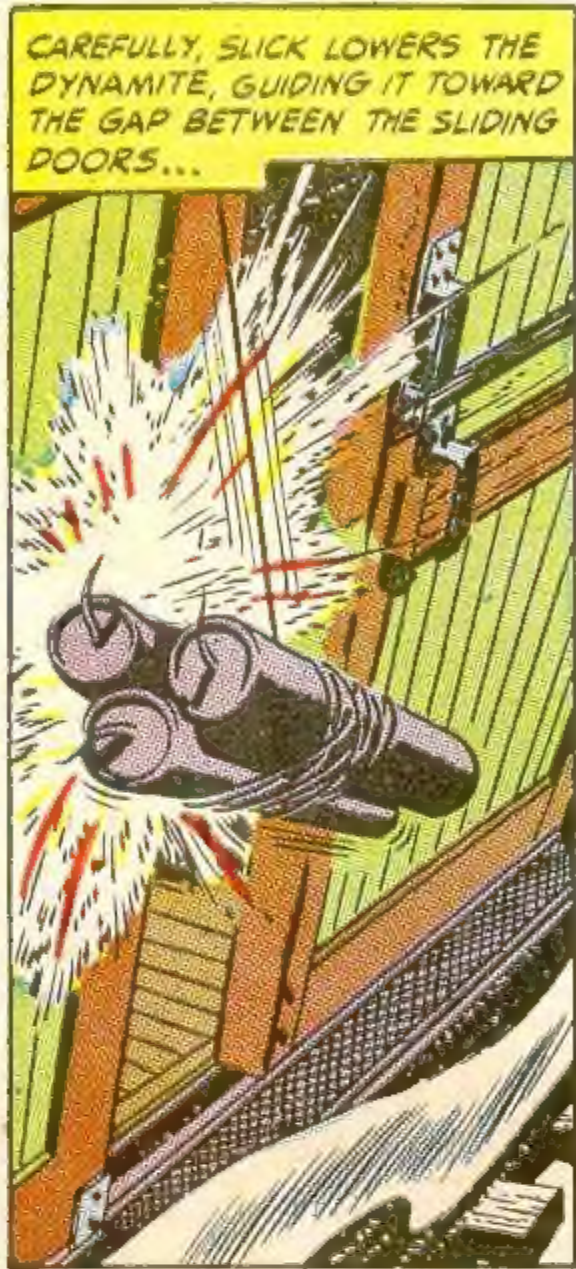


YOU BOYS DROP DOWN AN' FRISK THE PASSENGERS. I'M GOIN' TO DYNAMITE THE MESSENGER CAR!





THIS'LL BLAST THOSE SLIDING DOORS WIDE APART! THEN IF THE MESSENGER WON'T SURRENDER, WE'LL GUN HIM DOWN!



CAREFULLY, SLICK LOWERS THE DYNAMITE, GUIDING IT TOWARD THE GAP BETWEEN THE SLIDING DOORS...



UNAWARE THAT DEATH IS WAITING, THE VIGILANTE CATAPULTS FROM HIS SPEEDING MOTORCYCLE...

GRAB THE HANDLES, STUFF! I'M GOING ABOARD...
RIGHT!

CLINGING TO THE SWAYING TRAIN, PRESSED FLAT AGAINST THE MESSENGER CAR TO AVOID BEING BLOWN OFF BY THE WIND, A FAINT HISS COMES TO THE VIGILANTE'S EARS...



FUNNY SOUND...ALMOST LIKE... LIKE...

HISS



IT IS! A STICK OF DYNAMITE - LIGHTED - ABOUT TO BLOW UP - AND BLOW ME UP WITH IT!



I'LL NEVER REACH IT! IT'S READY TO BLOW. THERE'S ONLY ONE CHANCE...



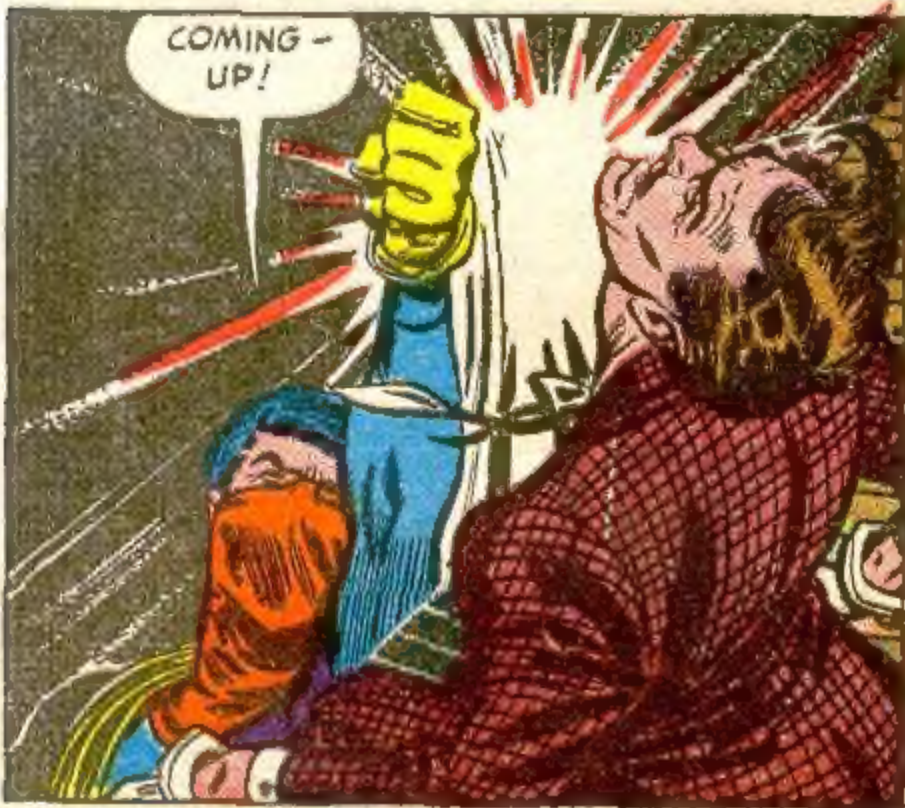
I NEVER THOUGHT A WATER PISTOL WOULD MEAN SO MUCH TO ME - BUT I SURE AM GLAD STUFF BOUGHT ONE AS A SOUVENIR OF THE PAGEANT!



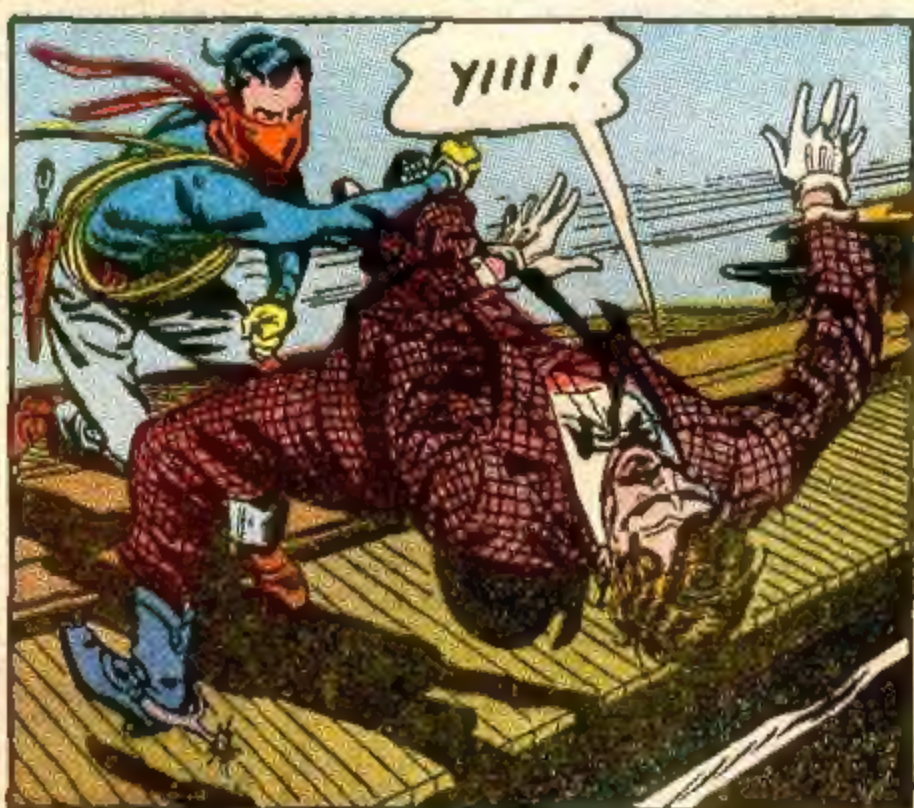
AND THEN, AS SLICK, CURIOUS BECAUSE THE DYNAMITE HAS NOT GONE OFF, LEANS FORWARD...

THE DYNAMITE FUSE IS OUT - NOW TO COOL OFF THE MAN WHO THREW IT!

- GLUBB -
- BLUBBB -

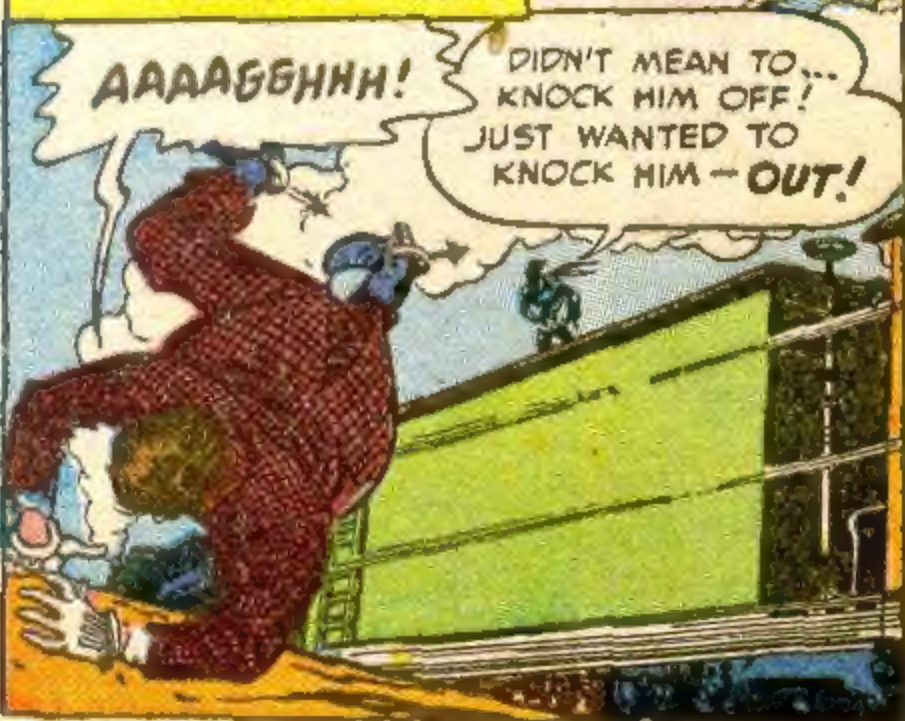


COMING - UP!



YIIII!

SLICK REELS BACKWARD! HIS FOOT SLIPS ON THE EDGE OF THE CAR, AND HE LUNGES BACKWARD OFF THE SWAYING TRAIN!



AAAAGHHH!

DIDN'T MEAN TO KNOCK HIM OFF! JUST WANTED TO KNOCK HIM - OUT!



THESE OLD-FASHIONED TRAINS HAD HAND-BRAKES! A QUICK STOP OUGHT TO KNOCK THOSE BANDITS INSIDE THE TRAIN OFF THEIR FEET!

ALL ALONG THE TRAIN, THE HARD-JOLTING STOP HURTTLES BANDIT AFTER BANDIT OFF THEIR FEET! THE SEATED PASSENGERS LUNGE FORWARD...



WHAT HAPPENED?

LOOK OUT!

GRAB 'EM!

NOW'S OUR CHANCE!



I GOT THE DROP! ON YOUR FEET, YOU TOUGH GUYS!

RECKON YUH GENTS FIGURED WE WAS EASY...

AS VIGILANTE EXAMINES THE INJURED SLICK, HIS HAND DISCOVERS A METAL CHAIN AND A HALF-RING FASTENED TO IT... AND HE CRIES OUT IN AMAZEMENT!



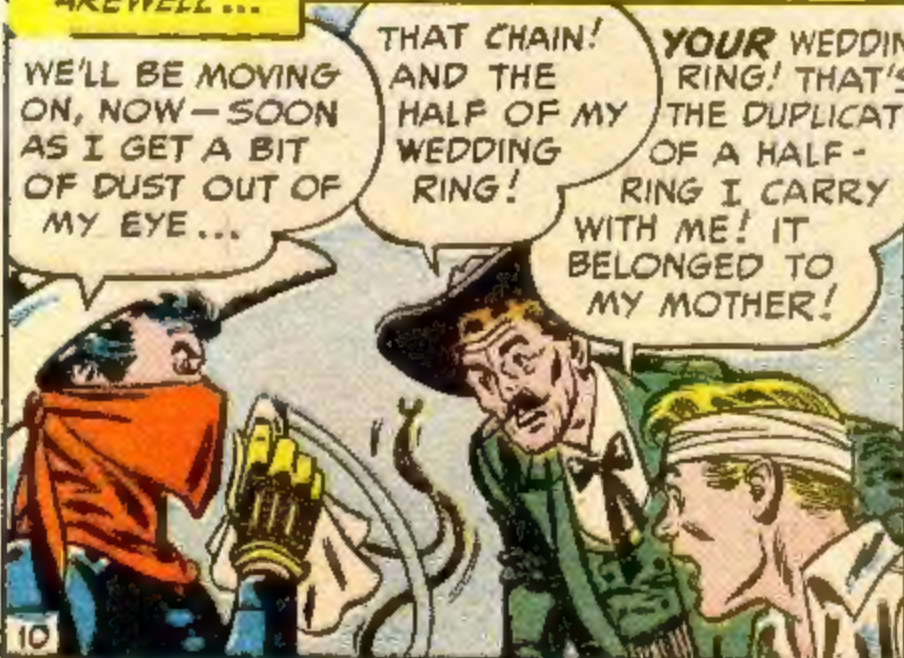
WHY... THIS BROKEN RING MATCHES THE RING LUKE MARTIN IS CARRYING AROUND WITH HIM!



THE ENTIRE GANG HAS BEEN CAUGHT, STUFF - BUT WE CAN'T TELL LUKE THAT HIS FATHER IS A COMMON CROOK! MAYBE WE'D BETTER FORGET THIS...

GOOD IDEA, VIG!

WITH THE BANDIT MOB BEHIND BARS AND THE LOOT RECOVERED, THE NUGGET PAGEANT ROLLS ON. ON THE LAST DAY OF THE CARNIVAL, AS THE VIGILANTE IS BIDDING ORVAL PRENTICE AREWELL...



WE'LL BE MOVING ON, NOW - SOON AS I GET A BIT OF DUST OUT OF MY EYE...

THAT CHAIN! AND THE HALF OF MY WEDDING RING!

YOUR WEDDING RING! THAT'S THE DUPLICATE OF A HALF-RING I CARRY WITH ME! IT BELONGED TO MY MOTHER!



MY BOY! MY BOY!

GOLLY! WELL GOLLY WILLIES! DAD!

SEEING THE MATE TO HIS OWN RING DID SOMETHING INSIDE LUKE'S HEAD, STUFF, AND BROUGHT BACK HIS MEMORY! HMMM... TO THINK WE CAME SO CLOSE TO RIDING OUT OF HERE WITH THAT SAME HALF-RING!

WOW!

The End



SUPERMAN'S

CODE for BUDDIES



HIYA, FELLAS. CAN I JOIN YOU?

SURE, COME ON IN.



YOU'RE NEW HERE, AREN'T YOU? WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

SAM LEVY. I'M GLAD TO MEET YOU ALL. I--



LEVY? WELL, WE'RE NOT GLAD TO MEET YOU. WE DON'T GO FOR YOUR KIND, SEE?

WHY NOT? HE LOOKS LIKE A NICE KID. WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE WHAT HIS NAME IS?

YES, TOMMY, WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?



JIM! AND SUPERMAN!

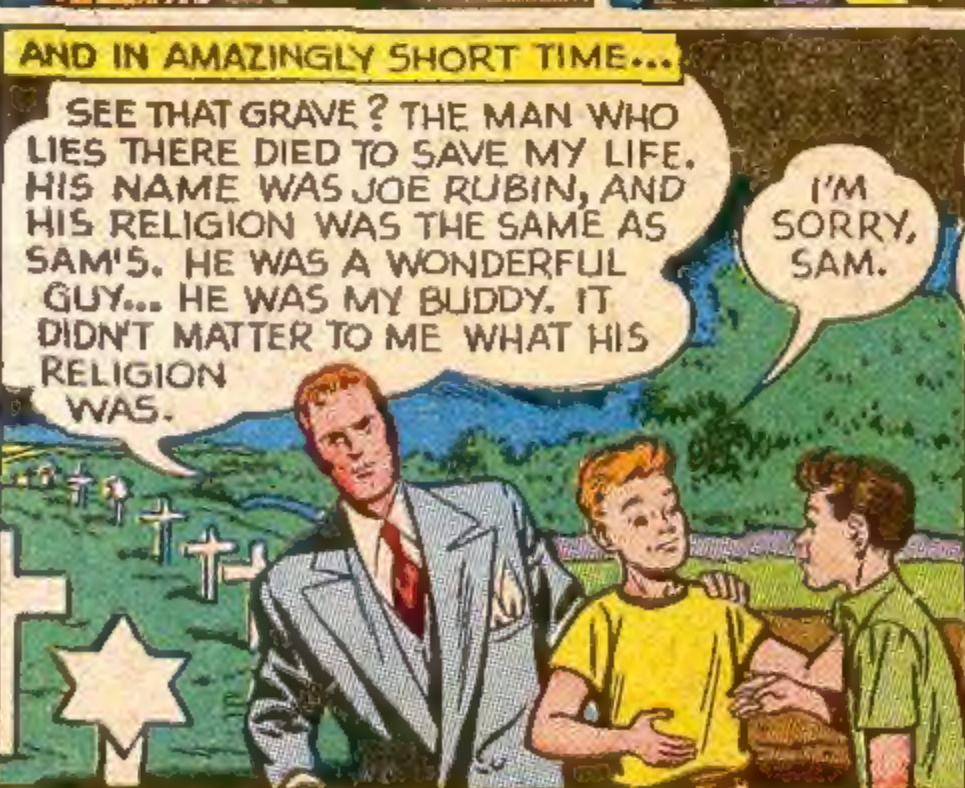
I'M SURPRISED TO HEAR MY KID BROTHER TALK LIKE THAT-- ESPECIALLY DURING BROTHERHOOD WEEK! MAYBE I CAN CHANGE YOUR MIND PRETTY QUICKLY-- IF MY FRIEND, SUPERMAN, WILL LEND A HAND...



LATER...

GOSH, WHERE ARE WE GOING, SUPERMAN?

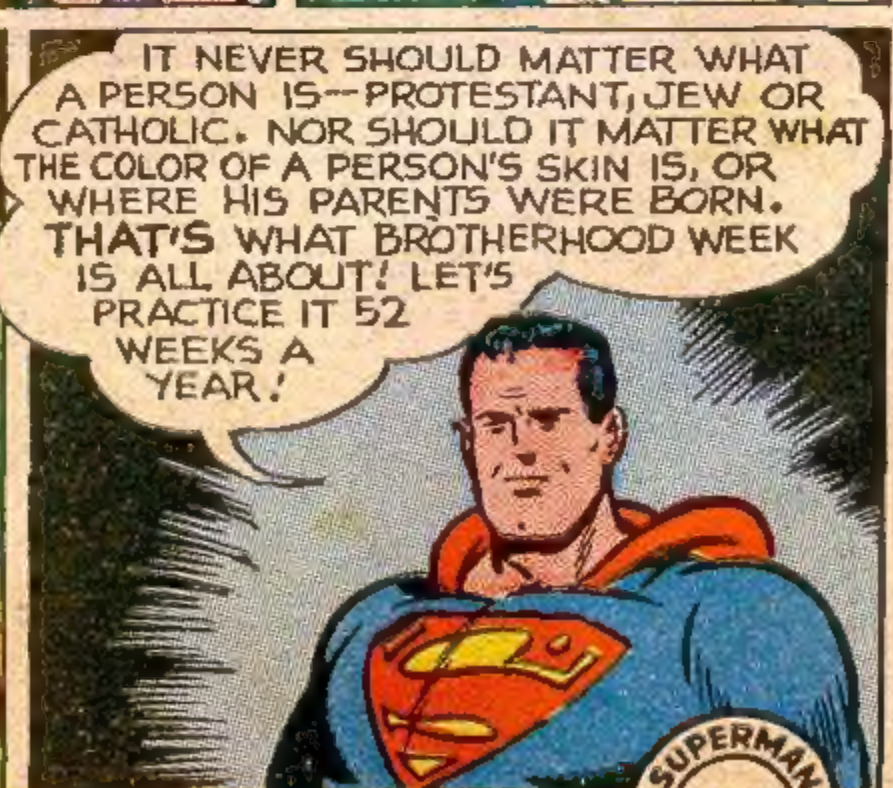
TO TWO JIMA, WHERE MEN DIED FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM AND AGAINST INTOLERANCE-- MEN LIKE YOUR BROTHER... AND OTHERS!



AND IN AMAZINGLY SHORT TIME...

SEE THAT GRAVE? THE MAN WHO LIES THERE DIED TO SAVE MY LIFE. HIS NAME WAS JOE RUBIN, AND HIS RELIGION WAS THE SAME AS SAM'S. HE WAS A WONDERFUL GUY... HE WAS MY BUDDY. IT DIDN'T MATTER TO ME WHAT HIS RELIGION WAS.

I'M SORRY, SAM.



IT NEVER SHOULD MATTER WHAT A PERSON IS-- PROTESTANT, JEW OR CATHOLIC. NOR SHOULD IT MATTER WHAT THE COLOR OF A PERSON'S SKIN IS, OR WHERE HIS PARENTS WERE BORN. THAT'S WHAT BROTHERHOOD WEEK IS ALL ABOUT! LET'S PRACTICE IT 52 WEEKS A YEAR!

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